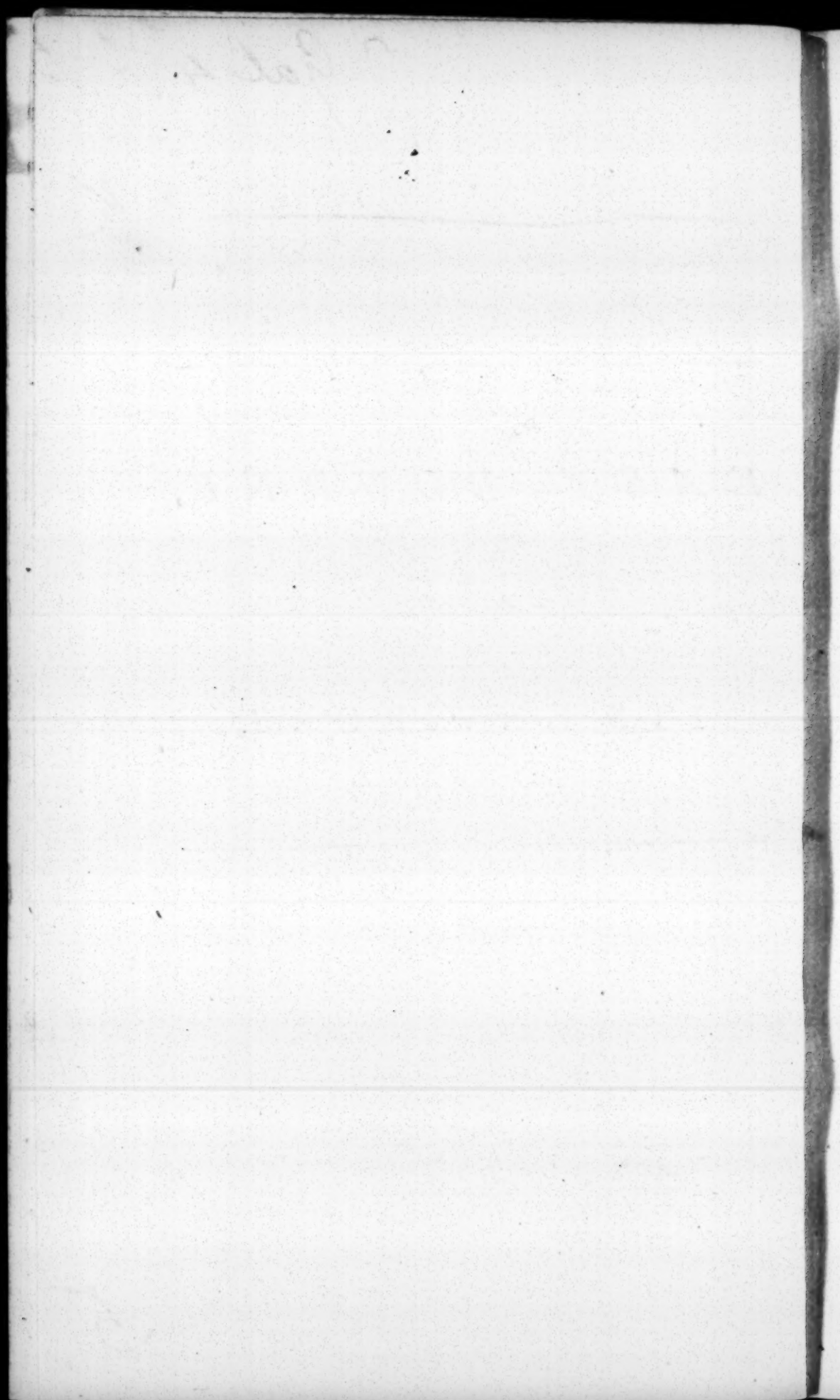

EAST - BOURNE,

A N D

ITS ENVIRONS.





S. S. Banks 1787.

T O

THEIR ROYAL HIGHNESSES

PRINCE EDWARD,

AND THE PRINCESSES

ELIZABETH AND SOPHIA.

MAY IT PLEASE YOUR ROYAL HIGHNESSES,

WITH sincerest thankfulness give
me Leave to acknowledge the
high Honour of Permission to address
this Treatise to your Royal Highnesses ;
and be pleased to indulge me in assign-
ing the Motives which have prompted
me to collect the Materials, and present
this Work to you and the public.

The

The great and peculiar Honour conferred by your Royal Highnesses, upon the Village of *East-Bourne*, by several Months' Residence there; the great Benefit your Healths derived from it, and the general Satisfaction your Royal Highnesses were pleased to express at the various beautiful Prospects and diversified Scenes of this healthy and romantic Spot, have induced me to think that a descriptive Account of that Village and Neighbourhood might not be unacceptable to your Royal Highnesses, as it may perhaps recall to your Minds those Scenes which you took so much Pleasure in viewing, and which Nature seems in a very peculiar Degree to have adapted as well for Health as Pleasure.

That

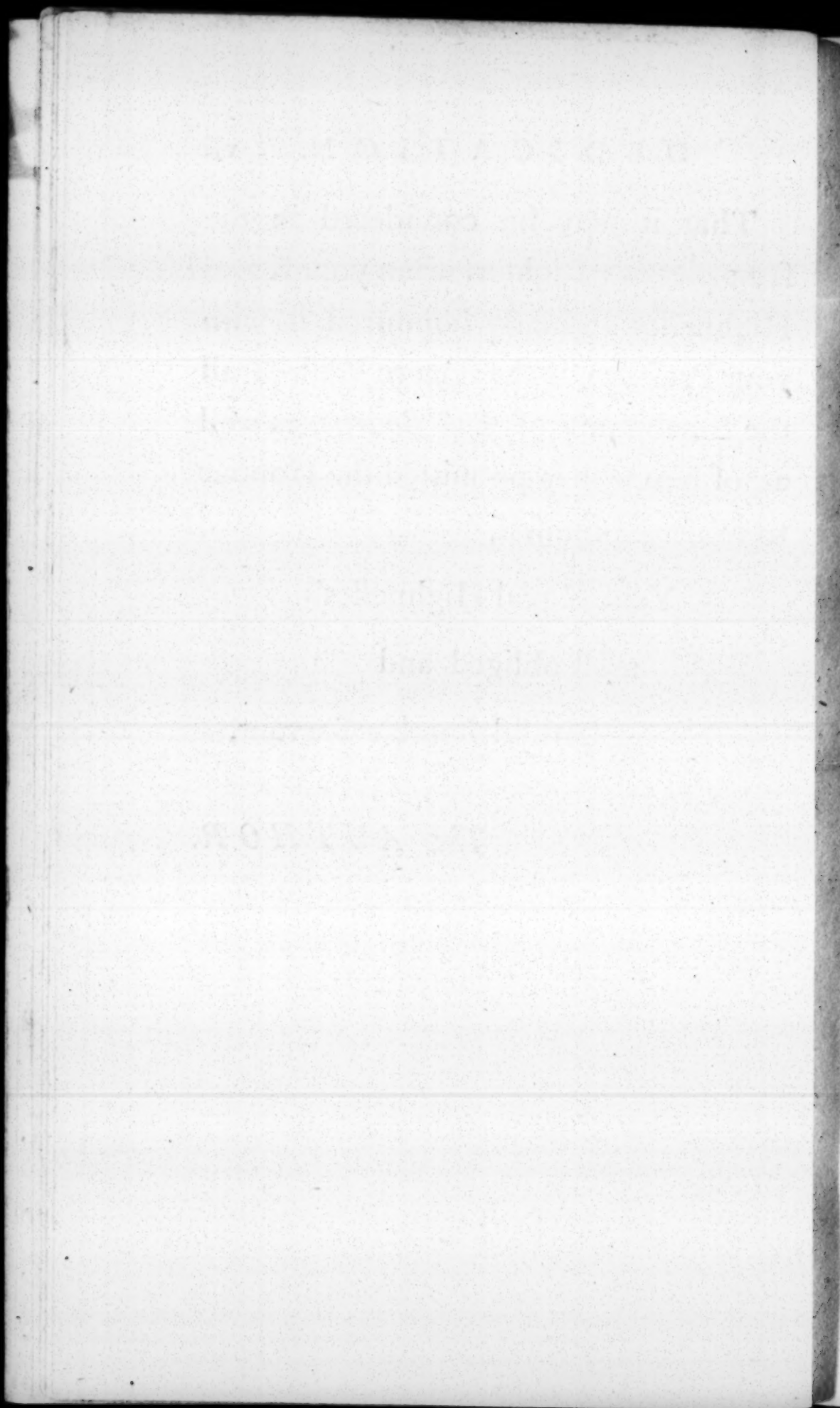
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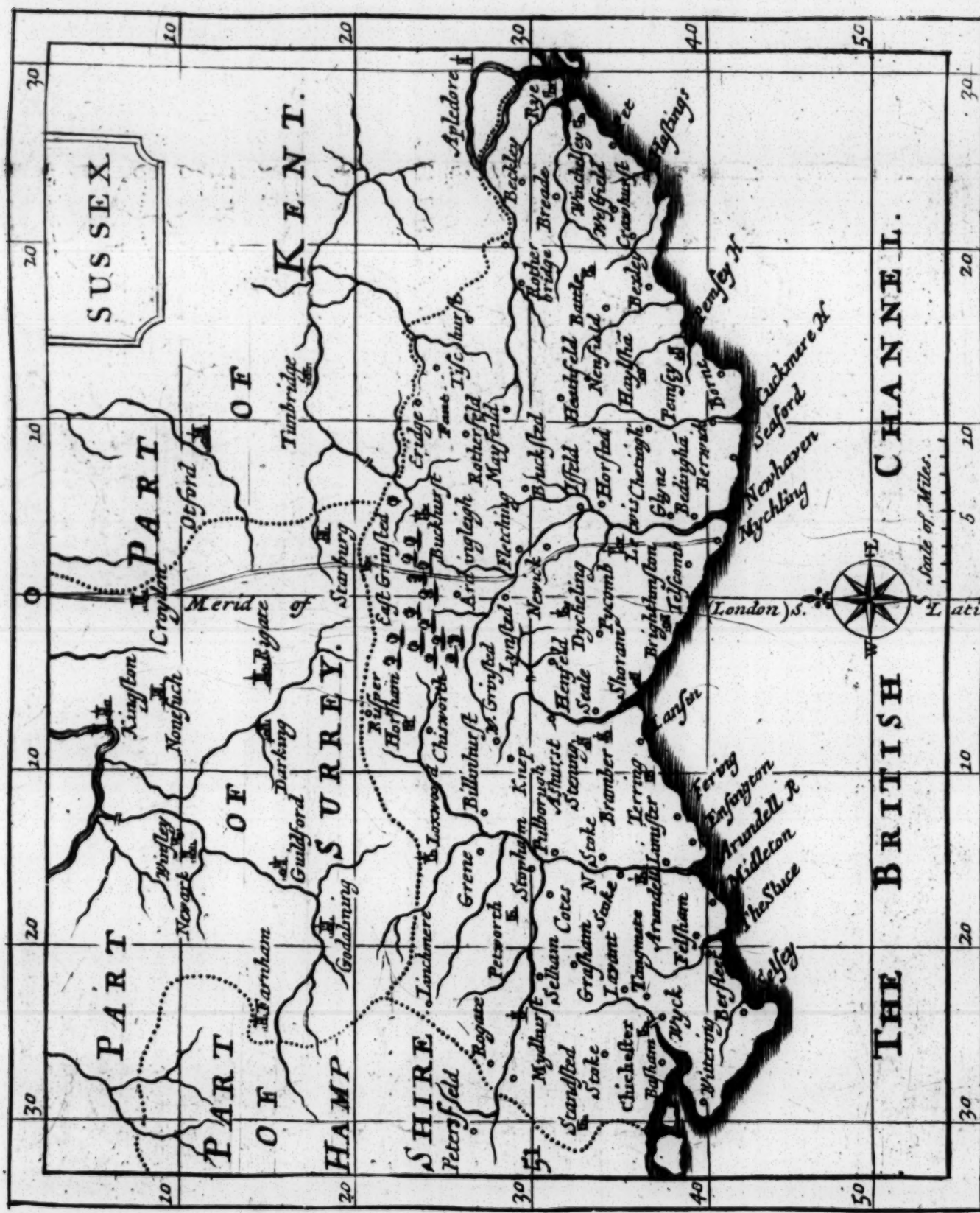
That it may be considered in the same pleasing Light as when your Royal Highnesses formerly honoured it with your Presence, is the sincere Wish of all the Inhabitants of *East-Bourne*, as well as of him who is permitted the Honour to subscribe himself,

Your Royal Highnesses's
most obliged and
faithful humble Servant,

July, 1787.

The AUTHOR.





EAST-BOURNE,

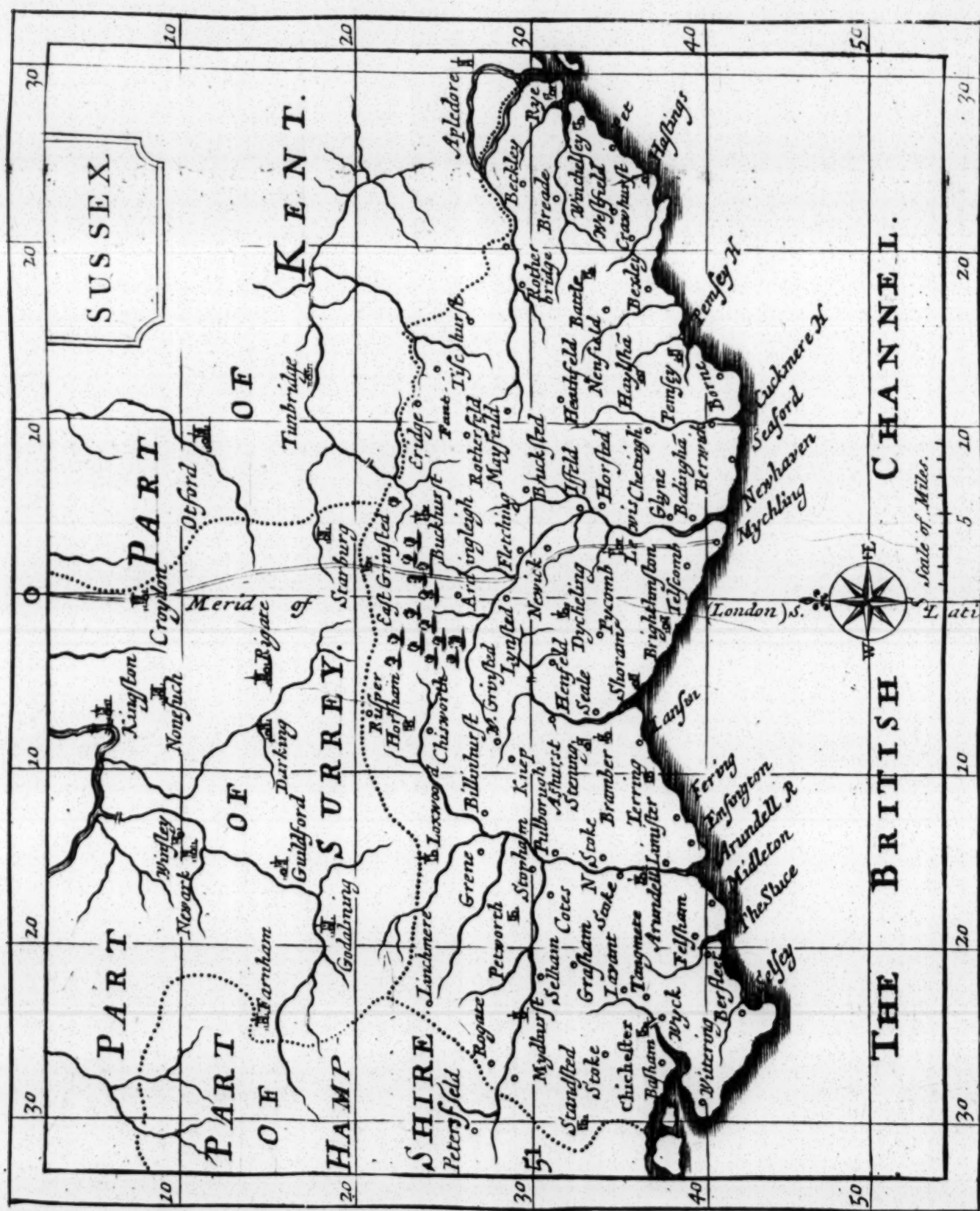
And its ENVIRONS.

THE county of Suffex extends from east to west between 70 and 80 miles, the breadth near 30, and in circumference about 170 miles. It is bounded on the north by Surry, and part of Kent, and by another part of Kent, on the east; by Hampshire on the west, and by the British Channel on the south-east: on the extremity of which shore, between Brighthelmstone and Hastings, and in a bay formed by the two headlands of Beachy-Head and Fairlight, lies the village of

E A S T - B O U R N E,
sixty-three miles south south-east of London, longitude fifteen degrees east, latitude forty-six north: and it is pretty certain the city of Anderida (destroyed by the Sax-

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B

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ons about the year 500) was not far from the east end of the Downs near the sea; for from the bath, pavement, coins, and bricks, the Romans had their abode here some time, especially when the extent and height of foundations about the place are considered; and also on the shore, or beach, at a place called the Wish, or by some the Wash, there are piles, from the appearance of which it is to be presumed there had formerly been a pier, or harbour for ships *; but it is now choaked up with sand, the sea having left it. Great part of this country was taken up by that vast extensive forest called by the Britains Coid-Andred, by the Saxons Andred, and Andredes-Wald, (by some termed the Wild or Weald,) and by the ancients Andreds-Sleage.—This forest extended 120 miles in length from Kent through Suffex into Hampshire, and at least 30 miles in breadth; and was formerly a desert for deer and hogs. The ground produced a mineral called
talc,

* This the nearest English coast to the mouth of the Seine, to which place it is supposed the Romans came from Italy over to this coast.

talc, which, if properly prepared, was used as a white-wash, and in phyfic had an astringent quality. This country was anciently almost all over-run with forests and thickets; but now the woods are much thinned, and unless there be a way found out to char sea-coal for the use of the iron furnaces, it is to be feared that the country will be quite stripped of wood. It is true, that there are still some remains of the famous wood Anderida dispersed in little parcels up and down the county, as the forests of Arundel, St. Leonard Wood, Ashdown, Waterdown, and Dallington; but they are like to follow the fate of their mother, if not timely prevented. In this forest Siegebert, king of the West Saxons (being deposed from his throne) was stabbed by a swine-herd.—A poetical description of this forest may not be improperly recited here :

This scene, how different in its pristine state !
(What fame reports, well may the muse relate)

* All was one wild inhospitable waste ;
Uncouth and horrid, desart and untrac'd ;

B 2

Hid

* Vide Appendix for a further account of the forest of Anderida,

Hid, by rough thickets, from the face of day ;
 The solitary realms of beasts of prey :
 After the weaker kinds the foxes ran,
 Themselves not yet pursu'd by craftier man :
 The wolf, since banish'd, rul'd with lawless might,
 And howling, added horror to the night ;
 'Till man, at length, their secret haunts explor'd,
 And taught the savage race to know their lord.
 Then Industry, Earth's handmaid, threw apart
 Her rude attire, and dress'd her charms with art ;
 From second chaos order did produce,
 From useless things, things of noblest use.

The Wild or Weald is about 50 miles in length, and 30 in breadth ; and in many parts resembles Lombardy in Italy, being planted with trees as that is.

Behind the village of East-Bourne are the South Downs, which extend from beyond Arundel to this spot, and defend it from the furious blasts and watery influence of the west and south-west winds ; and in front, the sea forming an amphitheatre (which many report similar to the Bay of Naples for form and beauty of view) exposes it to the first rays

rays of the morning sun, with all the splendour and warmth of an eastern and orient country, the ardent fire of noon, and the pleasing shade of evening. To this scene the following lines may not be inapplicable:

Sweet is the breath of morn, her rising sweet,
 With charm of earliest birds ; pleasant the sun,
 When first on this delightful land he spreads
 His orient beams on herb, tree, fruit, and flower,
 Glittering with dew ; fragrant the fertile earth,
 After short showers ; and sweet the coming on
 Of grateful evening mild ; then silent night,
 With this her solemn bird, and this fair moon,
 And these the gems of heaven, her starry train.

It is at all hours, even in the warmest season, in your power to be cool and pleasant, by walking on the sea shore, or by riding on the Downs, by which the intense heat is moderated by the sea breezes.

Being now on the sea-beach, it may not be disagreeable to insert the following panegyric on that noble object the sea :

“ Hail ! thou inexhaustible source of wonder and contemplation !—Hail ! thou multitudinous ocean ! whose waves chase one another down, like the generations of men ; and, after a momentary space, are immersed for ever in oblivion !—Thy fluctuating waters wash the varied shores of the world ; and while they disjoin nations, whom a nearer connection would involve in eternal war, they circulate their arts and their labours, and give health and plenty to mankind.

How glorious ! how awful are the scenes thou displayest !—Whether we view thee, when every wind is hush’d, when the morning sun, as now, silvers the level line of the horizon ; or when its evening track is marked with flaming gold, and thy unrippled bosom reflects the radiance of the over-arching heavens !—or whether we behold thee in thy terrors !—when the black tempest sweeps thy swelling billows, and the boiling surge mixes with the clouds—when Death rides the storm, and Humanity drops
a fruit-

a fruitless tear for the toiling mariner, whose heart is sinking with dismay!

And yet mighty Deep!—'tis thy surface alone we view—Who can penetrate the secrets of thy wide domain?—What eye can visit thy immense rocks and caverns, that teem with life and vegetation? or search out the myriads of objects, whose beauties lie scattered over thy dread abimes?

The mind staggers with the immensity of her own conceptions—and when she contemplates the flux and reflux of thy tides; which, from the beginning of the world, were never known to err, how does she shrink 'at the idea of that divine power, which originally laid thy foundations so sure, and whose omnipotent voice hath fixed the limits where thy proud waves shall be stayed!"

Turning around, the country elevates itself from the sea to the Downs, which are as fertile for corn as most vallies and plains, and are constantly covered with fine sweet grafs (owing to their being on a fat chalk or

marl,) making as it were a carpet of velvet, the finest in the world, both for man and beast to walk on, and whereon feed innumerable flocks of sheep, which it is difficult to pronounce, whether the flesh or fleece is most delicate, and where also feeds and is caught, the Wheat-Ear.*

The middle track of land is richly ornamented with meadows and corn-fields, with
hedges

* * A bird peculiar to this county, and so called, because they are fattest when the wheat is ripe, which they feed on: they are about the size of a lark, but far excel it in fatness and delicacy of flesh; we may rightly call them the English Ortolans*, as they much resemble these birds in taste; and are so fat, that they almost dissolve in the mouth like jelly, being so delicate. I shall not name that epicure, who being seriously asked his judgment concerning the abilities of a great Lord, concluded him a man of very weak parts, because, once he saw him at a great feast feed on chickens, when there were Wheat-Ears at the table.—They are not in season till the middle of summer, when by reason of the heat, and their fatness, they are so apt to corrupt, that the London poulterers dare not meddle with them, all the care that can be taken, not being sufficient to keep them from putrefaction,
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* Italian, *Beccafica*, improved by passage and feeding.

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* Formerly a cross, as adopted by the Romish priests, to remind passengers of their devotion.

springs, being clear, sweet, soft, and balsamic; several of which flowing from the cliffs, and a spring from whence the village is named, the head of which arises out of a chalkey rock under an arch in an Ox-stall in the Old Parsonage Close; and after supplying a large pond and two basons in the gardens of Messrs. Willard and Gilbert, losses itself in the ditches and levels, till entirely wasted in the Beach called Broad-Bourne, at the sea-side: And this water supplies great part of the town, on account of the above good qualities.

From the number of barrows, foundations, and Roman pavements in this neighbourhood, particularly in a field belonging to Mr. Willard, where it is said, is a Roman Bath, (a particular account of which, for the amusement of Antiquarians is annex'd by way of appendix;) it is presumed this was the place of an ancient Roman station, as coin and other riches have been dug out: nay, they go so far as to say, a golden coffin was dug up
with

with the remains of a body ; and frequently bones are thrown up by plough-shares, and other means ; and near the road leading down to the Chalk Cliffs, are the remains of a building called St. Gregory's Chapel,* and the fields and hill are now distinguished by that name. The bells belonging to it are said to have been carried to France, and now actually used either at Rouen, or Dieppe, in Normandy.

The village of East-Bourne is small, but snugly situated, being almost surrounded by hills, and is built in form of a cross :—The church, near which is a priory (generally mistaken for another in a village of the same name near Chichester,) stands nearly in the centre of the town, where the four streets meet. It is an ancient edifice, the arms of Charles the I. being hung up over one of the portals. In it was an inventory of bells, vestment books, and other furniture of the chapel ; also a schedule of rent and revenues thereof. There are several

B 6

tombs

* So named in letters-patent, establishing the corporation of Pevensey.

tombs and monuments, particularly a very handsome modern one in the chancel, belonging to the family of the Lushingtons, who have the best house and gardens in this village, and most delightfully situated, both for land and sea prospects.

There are but few good buildings; the principal ones are inhabited by Messrs. Willard, Gilbert and Augur; the custom-house, and Parsonage-house: the gardens and pleasure grounds, which are uncommonly pleasant and shady, having fine elms, walnut, chestnut and other large trees thereon, which so near the sea is very seldom to be met with. Dr. Noake's, and Mr. Straiton's situations, and romantic views from them, are worthy of observation, as is also Counsellor Pigott's, at South-Bourne.

Lord George Cavendish's, at Bourne-place, about half a mile from the village, at the end of South-Bourne Street, is very pleasantly situated, having fine views of the Sea, Downs, &c. being surrounded with lofty and large trees, and all kinds of flowering

ing

ing shrubs, and excellent kitchen garden, near a fine lawn called the Links, at the end of which is a shrubbery, and an elegant building called Paradise; which appellation from its situation, and the views from it, it richly deserves.

The house is a very good brick building, and a comfortable habitation in winter as well as summer, the walls being thick and well sheltered; good dining, drawing, and other rooms and gallery, from whence are pleasing land and sea views; some remarkable fine tapestry, being the history of Don Quixote, and some tolerable good pictures, by Sir P. Lely, and Sir Godfrey Kneller.

From Bourne-Place, go through a long street called South-Bourne, and Shady-lane, with trees and hedges to the sea-houses; in which street and on the beach, are some tolerable good modern buildings; three of which are agreeably situated at the sea-side, belonging to Messrs Mortimer, Royer and
Bradford,

Bradford, and were occupied in the year 1780, by their Royal Highnesses Princesses Elizabeth, and Sophia, and Princes Edward and Octavius; and are chiefly inhabited by visitors who come in the spring, summer, or autumn months, for the advantage of the sea air and bathing, the accommodations for which are equal to any in England; the water being pure, and the sands as fine, and the bathing seldom interrupted by bad weather; as for the amusements of sailing, shooting or hunting; of which, there being great plenty of game at the proper season, it must be here remarked, that within a week of the same period every year, amazing number of sea fowl of every denomination arrive at the Cliffs, where holes are formed, they lay their eggs, hatch their young, and get off with them as well as they can, tho' it is supposed many are left behind slain by sportmen.

There are also several buildings, particularly a large one, formerly a horizontal
mill

mill for grinding corn, now called the Round-house; near this place, the sea has encroached much, as some of the oldest people remember to have seen cattle feeding in a meadow directly under where this house stands, now on the extremity of the Cliff.

Being now at the Sea-houses, the prospects from which both of land and sea, are beyond description pleasing, it may not be disagreeable to be informed of the many pleasant excursions to be made from this place, and as the weather is, so should the excursions be answerable.

Supposing it to be fine (as it generally is from May to November,) curiosity may tempt the reader to visit that immense promontory of Beachy-Head; to which place it is advisable to set off on horse-back, (or in a chaise, one horse before another, with a guide;) about one hour before low water, by which means the advantage may be taken of riding on the sands, without being alarmed at the rising of the tide.

In

In this excursion, the first place of note, about half a mile, is the Wifh, which has been before remarked as supposed to have been a pier or harbour, and of which there are evident marks from the opening, and kind of bason behind the Beach.—About half a mile further, pass many springs, issuing out of the chalky cliffs, one of which springs is called Holy-well, supposed to be so named from the many advantages received from the drinking of those waters, which are of the like nature of Bristol waters; having been analyzed, and said to be equal to them in strength and efficacy in all disorders of the lungs, weakness of the stomach, &c. the water being full as light, if not lighter. About a mile further arrive at that amazing promontory or Cape, called

B E A C H Y - H E A D,

about three miles S. W. of East-Bourne: it rises gradually from South-Bourne; at first it is very rugged, and has several pinnacles called the Charles's, some of which are now
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BEACHY-HEAD, SUSSEX.



In this excursion, the first place of note, about half a mile, is the Wish, which has been before remarked as supposed to have been a pier or harbour, and of which there are evident marks from the opening, and kind of basin behind the Beach.—About half a mile further, pass many springs, issuing out of the chalky cliffs, one of which springs is called Holy-well, supposed to be so named from the many advantages received from the drinking of those waters, which are of the like nature of Bristol waters; having been analyzed, and said to be equal to them in strength and efficacy in all disorders of the lungs, weakness of the stomach, &c. the water being full as light, if not lighter. About a mile further arrive at that amazing promontory or Cape, called

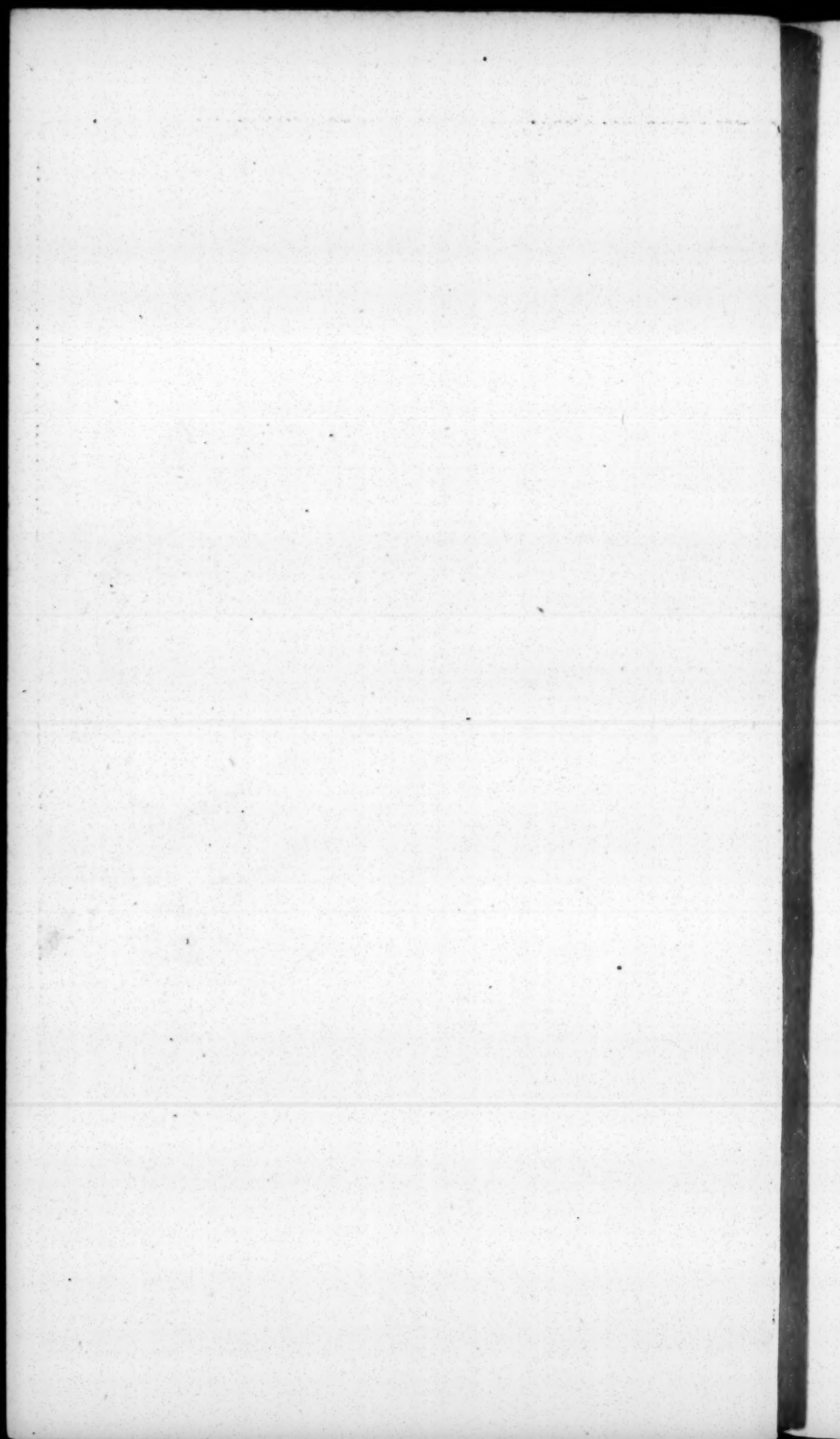
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BEACHY-HEAD, SUSSEX.





down ; but as soon as you have turned the Head Land, it is quite perpendicular.

Off this point of land, the French fleet by their superiority in number, defeated the English and Dutch in 1690, commanded by Lord Torrington.

Several large caverns (like great vaults) are made in these cliffs by the sea, by which the many projections and romantic perpendiculars are wonderful and pleasing. It is the highest cliff on the south coast, and is above as high again as the monument of London, being about 500 feet in height.

The rocks, which reach far out into the sea, are the destruction of many fine ships and lives.

In passing the Charles's, a ridge of cliffs joining Beachy-Head, will be presented in view, and are more perpendicular, being less broke in upon by the sea. Under one of these cliffs is a large cavern, consisting of an opening stair-case, a dining-room and bed-chamber, said to be carved or hewn out by a clergyman, taking its name from him, and
is

is called Derby's-Hole ; from hence, near a mile, is Burling-Gap, an ancient gateway shod with iron, being used in former wars, and is a way up to the land. It encloseth a hill named Beltout, of a half oval shape. The works have the same figure, and measure three quarters of a mile ; the cliff makes the diameter. It is now used as a convenient landing place for smugglers.

As the reader may be tired of prose, it is hoped it will not be unentertaining to recite the following piece of poetry written by a schoolmaster. Its chief merit is accuracy in the description of the places therein celebrated ; it is therefore given without alteration :

ON Albion's austral bounds, on Suffex's strand,
A range of rocks defend the adjacent land
From vile invaders, and insulting waves ;
Indulgent Nature whom she loves, she saves ;
Then from the laws draw this safe inference,
Against false friends still make the strongest fence.
The treacherous French with envy on them gaze,
Chagrin'd to see such walls they can't craze ;

Erst

Erst seven cliffs, but know the Charles's height,
Here off from hence was fatal Beachy fight.

Our Western fleet, freighted with Indian weed,
Did suffer here by treachery decreed.

The Dunkirk squadron, lurking for their prey,
Sheer'd out, and here did intercept their way.

The furrow'd front, with visage ghastly pale,
Frowns at the billows of each boisterous gale,
Informs afar of fatal Beachy-Head,

A shoal of rocks to mariners a dread.

Oh! ghastly fight, a speedy death to touch,
Too oft experienc'd by our *friends*—the Dutch.

When strangers this tremendous cliff pass by,
And underneath uplift their dazzled eye ;
Deem that the threatening top does half-way
reach the sky ;

And some old ruins of another world,
Which Jove in sporting down at this has hurl'd ;

Rocks rais'd on rocks, in rustic order rise,

To lofty towers who seem t' ascend the skies.

The beating surge the basis undermines,

Till o'er the beach the massy brow inclines ;

Sullen, forsak'n, like persons in disgrace,

Who frown on all who look them in the face ;

When rushing storms do shake the continent,

Or peals of thunder rend the element ;

Or

Or murdering guns, when they in volleys roar,
 Shake off the shell that over sail'd before ;
 Then down the maffy vizard finks in beach,
 And buries all that happens in its reach ;
 When men by custom overcome that fear,
 Which brings a dread, when danger it is near ;
 They vent'roufly look o'er the bending brow,
 And pigmy like feem unto thofe below.

Sea-faring fowl, of numerous forts here throng,
 Both for their refuge, and to breed their young ;
 And when surpris'd each have their different cry,
 Altho' in difcord, yet in harmony.

A fcene more ftrange in Britain don't appear,
 At once furprizing both the eye and ear ;
 Weftward from Beachy near four hundred pole,
 A cave was cut, is now called Derby's Hole ;
 As ftately piles oft bear their founders' name,
 So this fame cell perpetuates the fame.
 A rev'rend wight, who left his weekly care,
 Chofe drudging here for drugery of prayer ;
 With axe and pick, he cleft the rugged rock,
 He spar'd no pains, but with his ftaying flock ;
 When he had hewn this fubterraneous cell,
 His lonesome fancy led him there to dwell ;

But

But noxious vapours, which did here collect,
 Soon seiz'd the fire, and spoil'd the architect :
 Tho' one man lost, twelve Dutchmen by it sur-
 vives ;

*Being shipwreck'd here, with hardship saved
 their lives.

On the broad shoulders of these cliffs there lie,
 The fairest downs ere fac'd the azure sky ;
 Where a rich carpet o'er the same is spread,
 And numerous flocks thereon are yearly fed ;
 Whose silver fleece, and sweeter flesh exceed,
 Banstead, or Bagshot, or fam'd Coteswold
 breed ;

There youthful swains engage the youthful fair,
 And the swift greyhounds chase the harmless
 hare ;

And

* When all the winds of heaven seemed to conspire against the stormy main, and dreadful peals of rattling thunder deafened every ear, and drown'd the affrighted mariner's loud cries, while livid lightning spread its sulphurous flames through all the dark horizon, and disclos'd the raging seas incensed to his destruction ; when the good ship in which he was embarked, unable longer to support the tempest, broke, and overwhelmed by the impetuous surge, sunk to the oozy bottom of the deep, and left him struggling with the warring waves ; in that dread moment, in the jaws of death, when his strength fail'd, and every hope forsook him, and his last breath pressed towards his trembling lips, the neighbouring rocks that echoed to his moan, returned no sound articulate !

And the proud racers scour it o'er the plain,
 With eager speed, who first the goal shall gain.
 The artful shepherd here exerts his skill,
 The timorous, tender wheat-ear for to kill ;
 Here in the turf cuts up a Roman T,
 Which he inverts, and makes a cavity ;
 Where he hangs noozes, made of slipp'ry hair :
 Thus, every season for those birds prepare,
 When fleeting clouds, with dark'ning shades
 appear,

They take the trap, seeking for shelter there,
 T' escape the shower, they are taken in the snare ;
 Of such a feint, brave Britons, still beware !
 When thousands thus become their heedless prey ;
 To Tunbridge-Wells they quickly them convey ;
 A fine return well worth the shepherd's care,
 A fine repast fit to regale the fair ;
 They weaken'd nature kindly vivify,
 And wasted spirits friendly will supply ;
 Correct the juices, and enrich the blood,
 And by nice palates, deem'd delicious food.

Near on the East there lies a grateful soil,
 Which well rewards the tiller's care and toil ;
 Fair smiling meads, were once a briny flood,
 Fine glad'ning fields where a fair city stood ;
 Eastbourne,

Eastbourne now call'd, whilome Anderida,
 But mouldering time the hardest flints decay,
 Here's scarce one mark remains where the old
 ruins lay. }

The footsteps dim, the history dark to trace,
 Sea-downs, and weald, concur that its the place :
 Thus names of men, like places, have their lot,
 As Burton is, Wilton will be forgot ;
 Each in their turn, flourish'd a time now gone,
 To be succeeded by great WILMINGTON.

But not to trifle with so old a tale,
 Hear what will more the reader's ear regale ;
 This fertile place in plenty doth produce,
 All the substantials fit for human use ;
 Fowl, fish, and fruit, the season still supply
 Their luxury, not want, to gratify ;
 What still adds lustre to this ancient place,
 And gives a sanction with a double grace ;
 A noble peer by his own merit rais'd,
 Whose early parts were in the senate prais'd ;
 A filial branch of the NORTHAMPTON line,
 Great as the stem, and does more splendid shine ;
 With steady hand still holds an even scale,
 Between two powers, that neither may prevail :
 Happy that peer, where such a precedent,
 Thrice happy peer, who both sides can content !

In

In this high trust, with honour fills the place,
 And adds a grandeur to the COMPTON race :
 Envy fits silent at his sacred name,
 Justice records it in the rolls of fame ;
 Princes and Peers will strive to make it room,
 To be rever'd thro' ages yet to come ;
 Thro' future times here will be thought upon,
 The learn'd, the just, puissant WILMINGTON.

As the reader will now perhaps be as much (if not more) tired of the poetry, than the descriptive account, the latter will be renewed. Turning on the right, therefore, on the top of the cliffs over the fine downs already described, as near the side as safety shall dictate ; dismounting on the last rising ground going up to Beachy-Head, the sight downwards is very awful, and in many views romantic and entertaining, and wonderfully pleasing : At a point of land on passing the Head, is the finest coup de l'oeil in all Suffex, or perhaps in England ; looking down on East and South Bourne, over the Bay to Hastings ; on the right hand, the main ocean, and turning backwards, see
 Seaford,

Seaford, Brighton, and the sea coast, to the Isle of Wight, which may be distinguished very plainly: and to the left-hand the Downs, intermixed with villages, corn-fields, &c. descend to the village of

M E D E S,

consists of a few scattered houses, inhabited by farmers on the brow of a hill; pass through a pleasant shady lane to Lord George Cavendish's House; and also a pretty building inhabited by his steward; or, by another road on the right, to the With Houses, near the With Bank; or over the Links to East-Bourne, a most delightful ride.

Seaford being one of the Cinque Ports, it being also a pleasant ride, ascend the downs either by a road Lord George has generously made for the good of the public, or by that out of East-Bourne. After having gone near three miles, the village of East-Dean looks very pretty at a distance, particularly

C

cularly the house and grounds of Mr. Dippery.

E A S T - D E A N,

Was the estate of William de Echingham, 23d Edw. I. who then procured a charter of free warren for it, of that prince, and several other manors of his in this county; from whence you ascend a hill, through a shady lane, to Friston Church; which is a land and sea mark, being on an immense eminence.

On the right-hand, a fine enclosed wood, and a remarkable fine spring of water, for the height of situation; large buildings in the bottom. After which pass by West-Dean, on the right-hand in a valley, consisting of a large farm, and church; pass over a causeway to Excete or Excete Bridge, similar to the Dykes in Holland, between two seas in appearance; indeed on the left, it is the main ocean; being

C U C K-

C U C K M E R E.*

It is said, the Dutch offered one million of pounds sterling for this place, or for the liberty of anchoring here; but good policy refused the offer; as they would have interfered with our trade, and navigation. Pass by the pleasant spot of Sutton, a good habitable house belonging to Mr. Harrison, to

S E A F O R D,

the approach to which rather pleasant, being surrounded by corn-fields; a narrow passage arched over with trees, through which a romantic view of the sea: four streets meet in the centre of the town, situated within a quarter of a mile from the sea; there are some tolerable good buildings, many of which are let in

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the

* Cuckmere Haven, a pretty good harbour at the mouth of the river, that running from the bottom of Crowberry Hill, passeth by Haylsham, and empties itself into the sea, between Sutton and Excete, an hamlet of East-Dean Parish.

the bathing season to visitors; but the town-house is an indifferent building, a large and handsome church, pleasantly situated. Near the town, on the beach, is a good battery and house; also a noble large building, called Corfica-Hall, belonging to Mr. Harben, of Lewes; and brought between three and four miles beyond Lewes by water, and rebuilt in the same form and style; a large plantation and walks surround it; agreeable walk to Seaford or Seaford; which lies two miles W. of West-Dean, the Lordship of John Earl of Warren and Surrey, who having no issue by his wife, made over, by a special grant, all his inheritance to King Edward II. and among other great estates in this and other counties, this manor of Seaford: In recompence for which settlement, the king assigned him for his life, the castles of Corningsburgh, Sandale, and manors of Wakefield and Halifax, &c. in Yorkshire. He enjoyed the whole for his life, and at his death, which happened 21st Edward III.

they

they all went to the crown except some few, which by consent of King Edward II. had been re-granted to him, with remainder to his natural son, by Maude de Nereford, John de Warren, and his heirs-male, &c. But this manor seems to have continued in the crown; for in 42 Edward III. we find Michael Lord Poynings, died possessed of it, and then we suppose it returned to the crown, and was given to Richard Fitz-Alan, Earl of Arundel, who having forfeited it (as he was accused) by treason to the crown, Richard II. on account of divers great services done by him, conferred upon Thomas de Mowbray, Earl of Nottingham, this and divers other great estates, and soon after created him Duke of Norfolk. This town is in the liberty of the Cinque Ports; and though it be but a small fishing town, is built of stone and slate, and defended with a convenient fort. It enjoyed the privilege of sending burgeses to parliament very early, 26 Edward I. to 21 Richard II. seven elections, but is was discontinued from that time

to the reign of K. Edward IV. when it was again restored, as it now remains.

This town had 'an ancient hospital, dedicated to St. James.

B L A C H I N T O N,

Or Blechinton, the Lordship of Thomas Lord de la Warr, who died possessed of it upon Easter-day, 6 Hen. IV. leaving Thomas his son and heir. He was with victorious King Henry V. in France, in the third year of his reign, and died the same year, possessed of this manor, and several others in this county; leaving them to Reginald his son and heir, who had summons to parliament as Lord de la Warr, from 5 Hen. VI. to the 28th of that King's reign. He died August 27th of the next year, seised of this Lordship and other great estates, which he left to his son Richard. He was a stout asserter of the Lancastrian title; and when king Edw. IV. came to the throne, left the kingdom, and
lived

lived in exile ; till in Bosworth field, Henry Duke of Lancaster, then made King Henry VII. got on the throne by his victory over King Richard III. when he returned home, obtained his own estate and honour, and many lordships of John Duke of Norfolk attained.

Another fine spot, called

P O I N T P L E A S A N T,

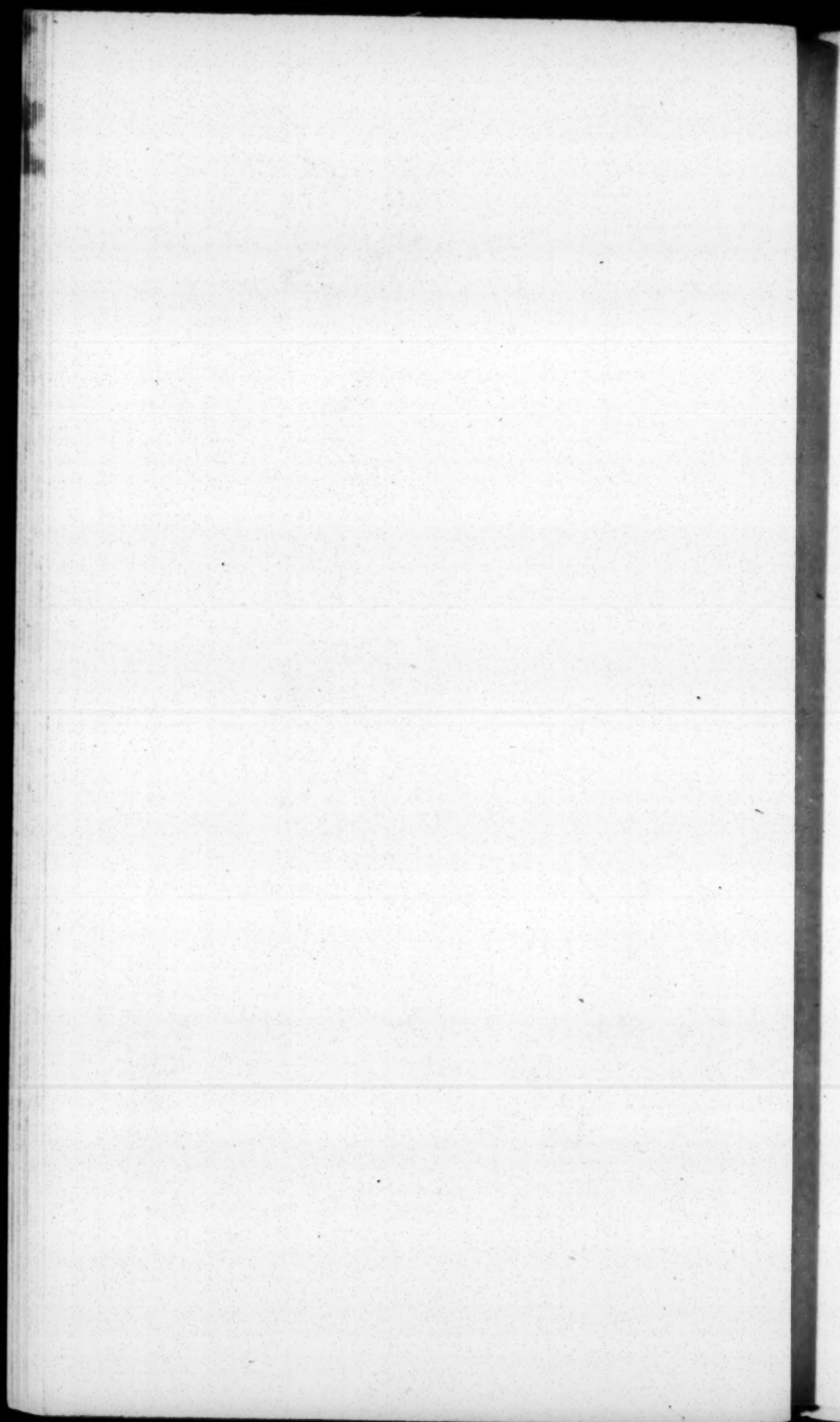
near which was formerly a small castle bounded by the cliff on the south ; its figure almost semicircular, the trench and rampart large, inclosing twelve acres, and from whence may be seen the Isle of Wight, Lewes, Brighton, &c. and cliffs to Beachy-Head.

Here is a fine bay, which reaches from Newhaven cliffs, to those of Seaford ; where there is good anchorage ground, for ships of any burthen. From hence you go by Blachinton battery, under rising grounds, by Bishopstone, belonging to the Pelhams, and of which an account will be given

on return. Pass on the left, a large building, used as a corn-mill, and which is supplied by an inlet of water from the river Ouse, to a bridge lately built over that river; a limb of the sea, noted for its being a safe and good harbour for vessels of considerable burthen, which go up above this bridge, where there is a dock-yard, and where frigates have been and may be built. This river runs up about Lewes, a port from which timber, corn, and other articles, the produce of a great part of the county, are exported; and all sorts of merchandizes for the use of the inhabitants thereof, are imported. Articles of trade are conveyed up this river in barges, about ten miles thro' a most fertile country, and a track of four thousand acres of marsh land, interspers'd with villages on each side of the river, of which, and Lewes, there is a most pleasing prospect from the custom-house and warehouses, and many parts of the town, particularly from the churchyard, where it may be agreeable to walk to; as by so doing, will be seen the whole



NEW HAVEN BRIDGE, SUSSEX.



whole of the town, which consists chiefly of one long street, in which a very few tolerable buildings, save one pleasantly situated; —belongs to Mr. Humphry.

On the point of the hill, which overlooks the harbour's mouth, is a fortification which is called the castle; its banks are very high, the shape near half oval, containing about six acres now, tho' formerly more, as the cliff moulders away, and falls into the sea.

To this place an agreeable walk on the walls, or thro' the fields; and from hence is a good view of the country and sea, to Seaford and cliffs.

N E W H A V E N,

Situate at the mouth of the river Ouse; but now the name of the river is almost quite forgot. The town is small, inhabited chiefly by maritime people, having a key on the east side of it, where ships may ride secure in foul weather; here are sometimes a pretty many small vessels, which bring coals, deals, and other merchandizes

for Lewes, which lies about eight miles eastward of this town, and load from thence with corn, timber, tan, &c. Some small vessels are also built here, and it would be a place of considerable trade, in case they had a better harbour; but now it is so small, that a vessel of about fifty or sixty ton loaded, dare not venture into it. Lewes stand upon the same river, about seven miles up.

This river waters the Rape of Lewes, spreading into divers branches on the north side of the Rape, one of them rising in St. Leonard's forest, and the other out of the forest of Worth, besides several other little rivulets, which uniting with another branch that comes out of Pevensey Rape, make a large torrent at Iffield, so goes on to Lewes, and falls into the sea at Newhaven, where it makes a safe and good harbour for ships in foul weather. We have no account of any particular sort of fish that this river is famous for, and leave it in common with the rest; but it is well stored with fish of all kinds.

Having

Having seen every thing worthy observation, and as novelty is pleasing in most things, yet in travelling it is particularly so, else it would not be so much practised; therefore after (on the return) riding about a mile, at a small grove, take the left path up the hill, from the top of which is a most enchanting view of sea and country, Bishopstone on the left, to which descend gradually.

B I S H O P S T O N E,

a very small village indeed; but for the company and entertainment formerly resorted to by the first, and indeed all the families in this county, to visit the Duke of Newcastle, of the Pelham family, and first made a baron by King William; a man whose hospitality and benevolence, as well as religious principles, are universally acknowledged; but as to his political character, as it has no immediate reference to this subject, (any further than his constant service in the cabinet, for about thirty-five years) will be a lasting and convincing proof of his abilities;

for like that great statesman Cardinal Fleury, at the age of about seventy-five, he was called from his retirement to assist the cabinet council, which, to serve his country, at the earnest request of the great Duke of Cumberland, he undertook, as a true whig and friend to the present family and government.

The house is strong and well built, not large, but has several good rooms, in which are many fine pictures of the royal, as well as of that noble family; painted by the first masters, and is now the estate of Lord Pelham.

The gardens, woods, and shrubberies, are small, but well laid out ; from them and the house, are many good views of the sea, and adjacent country.

By ascending the hill, and going over the downs, there is a continuance of the same fine and extensive prospect to Excete-bridge ; leaving Seaford, Blachington, and Sutton on the right.

EXCETE

EXCETE or EXCETES;

The manor and demefne of William Lord Echingham, who procured a charter of free warren for it, and some other of his estates in this county, 23 Edward I.—Who was his heir we know not, but find it in the possession of Lord West, 29 Henry VI. who left it with other great estates to his son and heir Richard Lord West and his heirs.

Over the causeway, and turn to the left to

WEST-DEAN,

which was the estate of Giles Lord Badlesmere, 12 Edward I. who then died possessed of it, and gave it to his daughter Maude, who was at that time wife of John de Vere, Earl of Oxford.—She out-lived her Earl, and had the inheritance.

And through a fine valley of corn fields, to Friston, a large pile of buildings, the estate of William Lord Echingham, so privileged

vileged as Excete, but now inhabited by Mr. Alfrey, a very good and honest wine-merchant: up a hill leads to another long valley, up a rising ground to the hand-post at the top of the hill, going down to East-Bourne. In the valley there is a building erected for the purpose of raising water for the use of the sheep, cattle, and other purposes on the downs.

Descend to East or South Bourne, the contrary way to the departure, by which will be had an opportunity of both views of sea and land, which indeed are equally beautiful, for the variety of villages, wood, and richness of country, and bounded by the sea, quite away to Hastings.

P E V E N S E Y C A S T L E.

Turning my face unto the morning light,
 An antique pile* salutes my roving fight;
 Whether of Roman, or of later date,
 Remains a secret, which the learn'd debate.
 Once a fair port enrich'd the fam'd abode,
 But herds now graze where royal navies rode:

For

* Pevensey Castle.

For like ambitious princes, earth and main,
 Contending make each other's loss their gain.
 Here with his powers, the haughty Norman came,
 Conquest his view, the diadem his claim ;
 The will of Edward his pretended right,
 But his best title was successful might ;
 Scarce stood his soldiers on the promis'd land,
 But their great leader, by a bold command,
 Aiming a desperate courage to inspire,
 Bid them look back, and see his fleet on fire ;
 Shew'd them their hopes in victory alone,
 And that his lot must be the grave or throne.
 By easy marches to the † town he came,
 Which from the Danish pirate takes its name.

(First of those sister † Ports, who since arose,
 The nation's guard against invading foes ;
 Whose naval services in ages past,
 Kings paid with honours, which shall ever last.)
 Harold, whose sword yet reek'd with Norway's
 gore,

Crown'd with fresh laurels, pluck'd from Hum-
 ber's shore ;

Found here the other rival of his fame,
 The same his cause, he hop'd th' event the same ;
 Bloody the strife, nor small the victor's gain,
 They fight a crown to guard or to obtain.

But

† Hastings.

† Cinque Ports.

But Heaven and Fate determin'd near this place,
 To end the glories of the Saxon race ;
 Still the proud ruins of the § abbey tell,
 Where William conquer'd, and where Harold
 fell.

This fabric on the spot the victor built,
 T' appease just Heaven for blood unjustly spilt ;
 But may his piety this offering claim ?
 Or did it spring from love of worldly fame ;
 Since the same work that should his guilt atone,
 A trophy stands to make his glory known ?
 Oh vanity ! can the same deed be thought,
 Impious and brave, an honour and a fault !
 Or by our gifts, can Heaven's eternal will,
 Like judges brib'd, be taught to wink at ill ?
 Oh ! ignorance of those deluded times,
 That thought saints' prayers could expiate sinners'
 crimes !

To this place, a fine road, being on a
 hard gravel on the sea beach ; having
 on the left, a pleasing view of downs, vil-
 lages and copses of groves, and through
 some pleasant shady lanes to rich marshes.

On the westward, is the village of West-
 ham ;

§ Battle Abbey.

ham; only one straight street of indifferent built houses; but the church is large and handsome, with three altars, answerable to the grandeur and magnificence of those noble Lords Pelham and Ashburnham.

This castle is an object worthy of observation, from its great antiquity and present state, having been a venerable structure.

It was called by the Britons *Caer Persa-uelcoit*, and by others *Pevenfel*, where it is said, William Duke of Normandy landed with nine hundred sail of ships, for the conquest of England; and tho' authors differ about the originality of the building, yet there is the greatest reason to believe it was built about the time of Julius Cæsar, from the number of regular strata of Roman bricks, taken out of a Roman fortress, and near which place, it is said he was the first who leaped from his ship on the shore of Britain; tho' some say it was built by William the Conqueror, and given by Henry IV. to the Pelham family for their loyalty and valour; others say it was granted by William the Conqueror

Conqueror to the Earl of Portland, and purchased of him by the Earl of Wilmington, and now the property of Lord George Cavendish.

This castle is said to have been built of rocks, taken out of the fields between the round-house and Wisb, at the sea-side, East-Bourne, where large pits now remain, the rocks of which bear the resemblance.

There was once a harbour, but now destroyed by the sea, tho' a deep piece of water comes up to the town; over which is a stone-bridge, and has communication with the country.

R I V E R A T P E V E N S E Y.

This river, tho' nameless, waters Pevensey Rape, and rising at the foot of Crowberry-hill, is augmented with several smaller streams, which uniting near Haylsham, pass in a full but winding current to the English channel, where it makes an haven, call'd Creekmere Haven. Pevensey, two or three miles up the stream, was anciently

ciently a good haven; but now the river is so much stopped up by the sand cast in by the sea, that no ship can come up to it, and so it is accessible only by boats, as Haylsham is.

The schoolmaster at Pevensey is a proper person to describe the particulars of this noble castle and country; but lest it should not be in his power to do so, or it may not be agreeable to have such kind of information, that description is here given.

This castle stands on a good deal of ground, nearly half as much as Dover; the keep is an irregular polygon, or hexagon, flanked by round towers, the entrance on the west side over a bridge, the keep is surrounded by a ditch on the east, and all sides but the east; likewise with an outer wall on all but the east side.—In the walls are several strata of tiles or British bricks. From Pevensey is a view of Hurstmounteux, distant about five miles. Behind the King's Head is a ruin'd building, built chapel-fashion.

There

There are two entrances, one at Pevensey on the east, the other at Westham on the west, distance about forty rod, and from the inner gate of castle at Westham, on to the wall, on Pevensey side, about twenty-five rod. The circumference of the inner castle seventy-five rod, and of the outer castle or walls 250 rods.

The inside of the inner castle consists principally of six compleat arches in large towers, or bastions, of which there are two much larger than the others, which are supposed to have been the kitchen and refectory, or eating-room, from the size of the chimnies and the door ways. The diameter of these towers is about twelve feet, the distance about ten rod. A compleat mote round.

The Bishop of Bayonne and his forces, sustained a six weeks' siege, and for want of provisions were obliged to surrender to William II. At this time so much of Pevensey is standing, that perhaps it is the
greatest

greatest and most entire remains of Roman building in Great-Britain.

The Rape is bounded on the east by the Rape of Hastings, on the South with the English Channel, on the west by the Rape of Lewes, and on the north by part of Kent. It contains in it these hundreds, viz. Alfiston, Danehill, Horsted, Danehill-Sheffield, Dill, Eastbourne, East-Grinstead, Flexborough, Foxfield-Kings; Hartfield, Isfield; Linfield, Longbridge, Ringemer, Rotherfield, Rushmonden, Sheplake, and Willington; of these Hundreds we have no particular account, save that we find the Hundred of Sheplake to have been the fee of Robert de Verre, Earl of Oxford, 33 Edw. III. As to the whole Rape, we suppose the fee to be at this time in the Crown, and the government to be in the Sheriff and his officers.

Pevensey, called by the Saxons Peopenrea, by the Normans Pevenfell, and now commonly Pemsey; we set it in the first place, because we conceive when it gave the
name

name of the Rape to it, it was the chief town, though no market town, so far as we can discover. It was certainly of old a famous place for shipping, for it is reckoned one of the seaports which Godwin Earl of Kent ravaged in Edward the Confessor's time, and took away many ships; but now it is only accessible by small boats, which crowd up a rill to it. What is spoke memorable of it in our historians, we shall set down in the order of time in which it happened, viz. in 1049, Suane Earl of Oxford, Gloucester, Hereford, Somerset, and Berks, son of Godwin, Earl of Kent, being forced to fly into Denmark, because he had inveigled Edgiva, Abbess of Leominster, out of her house, with an intent to marry her, contrary to the laws of those times, returned with eight ships, and landed at this town, where having obtained his cousin Beorn to mediate for him to the King, upon his promise that for the future he would become a faithful subject; he took Beorn into his ship, to carry him to the King, who was then at Sand-

Sandwich, under pretence of making his peace ; but Suane having thus got him into his power, carried him to Dort, in Holland, where he inhumanly murdered him, and cast his body into a deep ditch, covering it with mud. Aldred, Bishop of Winchester, obtained his pardon for alluring Edgiva ; but his conscience could not pardon his treacherous cruelty in murdering Beorn his kinsman, until he underwent the penance of going to Jerufalem barefoot, in which journey he got so much cold, that he died thereof at Licia in his return home.

Upon the death of Edward the Confessor, the crown of England was thought to belong either to Edgar Etheling, or William Duke of Normandy ; but Harold Earl of Kent being then a leading man in the English council, and very powerful, persuaded the nobles, that delays would be of very ill consequence, and so got himself elected and crowned King. Of the competitors the Duke of Normandy only was able to dispute the right, and accordingly having gotten

gotten Pope Alexander's approbation, and a good army, he passed in 900 ships, and landed them at this town, from whence, marching higher into the country, he came to a battle with Harold, whom having slain, fighting valiantly, the Norman possessed himself of the throne, which descended to his posterity.

King William, surnamed the Conqueror being settled on the throne, gave this town to Robert Earl of Morton in Normany, his brother by the mother's side, and made him Earl of Cornwall, which he enjoyed with divers other honours during that King's reign; but in the reign of William Rufus, he took part with his brother Odo, Earl of Kent, in an insurrection upon account of Robert Carthose, and held out this castle against that king; but as soon as the King's army came to besiege it, he surrendered it up to the King, and made his peace. He was a very devout person after the mode of those times; and besides what he did for other monasteries gave to the Abbey of Greistain

Greifstein in Normandy, the house of one Angeler in this town, and granted to them in his forest of Pevenfel, paunage, herbage, with timber, for repair of their churches and houses, and fuel for fire. When he died, we know not; but are certain that his heir and successor, was William Earl of Moreton and Cornwall; he was a man of a malicious and arrogant spirit; and because King Henry did not gratify his unreasonable desires in yielding to him the earldom of Kent, he joined with Robert de Belesme Earl of Shrewsbury, and stirred up a rebellion against him, which so provoked the King, that he seized upon all his possessions, razed all his castle to the ground, and banished him the realm.

King Henry being thus possessed of this town and castle, gave them to Gilbert de Aquila, with all the lands thereunto belonging, which were thereupon called the Honour of the Eagle, the castle being at the head of it. He was succeeded in this honour by Richer or Richard his son, who

D

proving

proving rebellious in taking up arms against that King, to restore William, son of Robert Curthose, to his father's honour, his estate was also forfeited; and this town and castle came again into the King's hands. But Richer, by the intercession of his uncle Petro, being reconciled to the King, obtained them again: yet, being of an unquiet spirit, he engaged again in the same rebellion, and the King being repossessed of them, settled them upon Henry Fitz-Empress; who after long wars with King Stephen, to recover his right, compounded for his succession, and assigned this town and castle of Pevensey, to William, son of King Stephen, who held them till Henry attained to the throne, by the name and title of King Henry the II.: in 4 Henry II. surrendered them again to the King, upon condition that he should have and enjoy by hereditary right, all the lands that were his father King Stephen's, before he was King of England. This honour being thus put into the King's hands, he restored them to
Richard

Richard de Aquila, whose posterity some time enjoyed them quietly.

In the reign of King Henry III. Gilbert de Aquila the 3d. held this honour; and being a resolute person, was guilty of many disorders, and among others passed into Normandy without the King's leave, which was a crime so great at that time, that he forfeited all his estates for it; and this honour being thus in the King's hands, was granted by him reg. 19, to Gilbert Marshall Earl of Pembroke, during pleasure; we suppose, because the same King, reg. 25, bestowed it on Peter de Savoy, his Queen's uncle, for his better support, on the same terms: though afterwards he gave him the inheritance, together with the castle and all the appurtenances; yet, afterwards the same King, reg. 53, gave the whole honour to Prince Edward, and his heirs, Kings of England, so that it should never be severed from the crown. Yet, when John of Gaunt Duke of Lancaster, and fourth son of King Edward the III.

married Constance sole daughter and heir of Don Pedro, King of Castile, in whose right he assumed the title of King of Castile; he, upon surrendering his earldom of Richmond, and all castles and lands thereunto belonging, had a grant of the general tail of the castle, and leucate of Pevensey: also of the free chapel within the said castle; which upon his death returned to the crown, by the accession of his son and heir Henry IV. who succeeded King Richard the II. soon after his father's death. But now there are no remains of the castle, but something of the old walls. Some part of this honour of the Eagle, King Henry IV. gave to the family of the Pelhams, for their loyalty and valour, which they still enjoy.

By 10 Edw. II. liberty was granted to Robert de Saffy, and Oliva his wife, to inclose as much of Pevensey Marsh as was then overflowed, and in the occupation of no man, and to hold it of the said King and his heirs, during their lives, for a pair of gilt spurs; to be paid

paid into the Exchequer every St. John's Day, which demand was afterwards superfed by his order.

Martyrs who suffered at Pevensey.

John Hart, Thomas Ravensdale, and a shoemaker and a currier, (of which two last we have not their names,) were all burnt together in Pevensey Rape in one fire: of these it is remarkable, that being at the stake, and ready to be put into the fire, they chearfully and joyfully yielded up their lives for the testimony of the gospel of Jesus Christ. They suffered September the 14th, 1556.

Andrew Borde, in Latin Andreas Perforatus, as he wrote himself, was a native of this town; he was educated at Wickham's school and at Oxford; but before he took any degree, entered himself among the Carthusians at or near London, but was soon weary of their severity, and returning to the University, applied himself to physic a while, and then travelled almost through all

Chiffendom, and some parts of Africa. Being come to England, he practised phyfic a little time at Winchester, and then went into France, where he commenced doctor of phyfic at Montpelier, and being incorporated in the same degree at Oxford, lived in this place, and afterwards at Winchester as a physician; yet not wholly forgetting his religious profession, he drank water three times a week, wore sackcloth, and every night hung his burial sheet at his beds-feet. He professed celibacy, and wrote against such priests and monks as married after the monasteries were dissolved. Bishop Poynt accuses him of fornication with three women; but others contend they were only patients: be that as it will, he must be acknowledged a learned man, a good poet, and an excellent physician, and as such was physician to King Henry VIII. and a member of the College of Physicians, London. He wrote several books, as well in phyfic as a breviary and dietary to health, of prognosticks and urines, as in other matters; an introduction
to

to knowledge, and an history of all the regions and countries in the world; besides some for diversion and mirth, as the tale of the Men of Gotham, and Milner and Abington. He died a prisoner in the Fleet, April 1549; yet 'tis probable not for debt, because he left in his will, two houses at Lynn in Norfolk, and his goods, and chattels in his house, at Winchester, to one Richard Matthew, whom he constituted his heir, without any mention of kindred at all.

Before we quit Pevensey, it may not be unentertaining to insert the following anecdote. At a quarter sessions some years back, a man was brought to the bar, charged with stealing a pair of buckskin breeches, which charge being fully proved, he was found guilty by the jury; but when the court were informed that the offence was a capital one, and that they must proceed to pass sentence, they were so much alarmed, that they wished to reverse the verdict, and give a fresh one, in such words as to make the consequence less than death; they therefore ad-

journed the court, and dispatched a messenger to Thomas Willard, Esq. of Eastbourne, the then town-clerk, (whose deputy was on that day attending) to beg his opinion whether it was possible to reverse the present verdict, and receive a fresh one, together with his instructions how to proceed. It happened that Lord Wilmington, to whom this place at that time belonged, with the then Chief Baron of the Exchequer, were at dinner with Mr. Willard, when this curious application arrived, to whom Mr. W. having reported the contents, the Chief Baron jocosely said, Instruct them to reverse the present verdict, and bring it in "Manlaughter," to which Lord Wilmington consenting, Mr. W. advised accordingly, and a new verdict to that effect was absolutely the consequence.

From hence over a fine gravelly road, through the marshes well covered with fine oxen and sheep, pass through the village of Wartling, prettily situate on a hill, to

Hurst-Mounceux, Hurst or Herst, the lordship

ship and estate of Godwin Earl of Kent, as appears by the Conqueror's survey, called Domesday book: he left several sons, of which King Harold, who lost the crown to the Conqueror, was the eldest, and lost his estates with his life at Lewes in this county. It is probable, it was given by the Conqueror to William de Warren, not only his kinsman by blood, but one who valiantly fought for him against Harold, and much contributed to his victory; for John de Warren, Earl of Warren and Surry, descended from him, procuring a fair yearly for this place on the feast of St. Lawrence, August 10, 6 Edward II.: he afterwards settled it, with his other estates on the crown, as is shewn in Felpham.

H U R S T - M O N C E U X,

A village situate among the woods, being from its woody situation called at first *Herst*; for the Saxons called a wood *Hyrst*. This place soon after the coming in of the Normans was the seat of a family of gentlemen,

D 5

who

who took their name from the place, and were called De Herft, for fome fucceffions, till William the fon of Walleran de Herft, (for what reafon is not known) took the name of Monceaux, in Hampshire, in Henry II.'s time, which was at length for diftinction's fake, annexed to the village itfelf, and fo it hath been long called Herft-Monceaux; from it's Lords. Male-iffue failing in this family of Monceaux, John de Fiennes of Old Court, in the adjoining parifh of Wartling, married the female heir, who brought this manor and feveral other eftates of her anceftors into his family, and their heir Robert inherited them. Roger the great grandfon of John, made the manor-houfe here his feat, and obtained a licence of King Henry VI. to make a caftle of it, and enlarge his park there with fix hundred acres of land, and left it at his death to his fon Richard de Fiennes, Fenes, or Fienes.

Thefe Fiennes are defcended from Ingebram de Fienes, who took to wife Sibil de Tyngrie, daughter and heir of Pharamufe
de

de Boloigne, who was descended of the Earls of Bologne, and nephew to Maude the wife of King Stephen. Richard de Fiennes above mentioned, being thus nobly descended, was knighted and made Chamberlain to King Edw. IV. and having before married Joan, the daughter and sole heir of Thomas Lord Dacre, was by reason thereof created by letters-patent, 37 Henry VI. accepted, declared and summoned to parliament as a Baron of this realm, under the name and title of Lord Dacre: but this Lord did not enjoy her inheritance without disturbance for some time; for Humphry Dacre, second son of Thomas Lord Dacre, sued this Lord for some part of her lands, and the honour itself; but King Edward IV. who was chose honorary arbitrator between them, having heard their several pleas, conferred the honour and estate to him the said Richard, Joan his wife, and the heirs of their bodies, lawfully begotten, because she was the next and right heir of Thomas Lord Dacre abovementioned; and so the family

of Fiennes continued Lords Dacres, as long as issue-male continued in their direct line, as we shall shew anon : Richard de Fiennes, the first Lord Dacres, having been made constable of the Tower, one of King Edward IVth's privy council, and attended the parliament as a Baron from 38 Henry VI. to 22 Edward IV. departed this life 2 Richard III. in possession of this manor, and buried in the parish church there, dedicated to All Saints, as was Joan his wife, who died 1 Henry VII. and were succeeded by their son and heir Thomas de Fiennes : He was a stout defender of the Lancastrian title in King Henry VIIth's reign ; both against the Cornishmen and the Scots, and having been summoned to parliament from 11 Henry VII. to 21 Henry VIII. died in the same reign, and was buried in this parish church, on the north side of the high altar ; appointing by his testament, that a tomb should be made there for him, and the supulchre of our Lord placed thereon, with tapers of 10 pound weight burning about it, and that
an

an honest priest should sing for his soul, seven years, and to have yearly twelve marks sterling for his salary, and to find bread for the sacrament, wine and wax. This family of Fennys failed 36 Elizabeth, in the issue-male, and Margaret sister of Gregory Fenys, marrying to Sampson Leonard, Esq. carried their estate and honour into his family, who thereupon became Lord Dacre; whose son Richard succeeded him, and died in this place. His grandson Thomas was created Earl of Suffex 26 Charles II.

He lived there, and ornamented it with stucco-work, carved cieling, &c. and by will is now the property of the Rev. Mr. Hare.

The soil of this place, for the chief part, is of a rich light mould, and may justly be allowed to be one of the best cultivated spots in the county of Suffex, and produces fine barley and other grain; and the marsh land in Pevensey level, (belonging to the parish,) is rich pasturage for cattle, which has been greatly improved within these fifty or
 sixty

sixty years by draining. One Sir Roger Fiennes, treasurer of the household to Henry VI. had licence to embattle his feat here, which he rebuilt in a magnificent manner, as it now stands, which perhaps is one of the largest and firmest pieces of brickwork in the kingdom, for the time it has been built ; a good view of which may be seen among Buck's Views of Castles, and a copy of it, in the description of England and Wales, published by Newberry : there is a mote round it, which has been kept dry for many years, and the sides planted with fruit trees ; but is easily filled, by the ponds above it. In the year 1773, it was possessed by Francis Hare Naylor, Esq.

The park surrounding this feat, is well stocked with beech, which have been esteemed the largest and finest in the kingdom : adjoining to the park, stands a church, in which are some curious monuments of the Lords Dacres ; particularly one, of Thomas Lord Dacre, who going out one night with other young folks, to take a deer out
of

of his neighbour Sir Nicholas Pelham's park, a fray ensued between the the park-keepers, and the party with which he was not, in which one of the keepers received an unfortunate blow, of which after some days he died: this was adjudged murder, and not only those of that party, who were present in the fact, but also those who were about, were equally guilty; and in consequence, this Lord Dacre suffered death; and was much pitied from his excellent character, and being only twenty-four years of age; and the King's rigour much disapproved, for not shewing mercy. But his great estate the courtiers gaped after, they were however disappointed, being too strongly entailed.

Though the building is not so extensive as Pevensey, yet equally well worth seeing, and is in better preservation, though gradually decreasing, by being taken down for other buildings and repairs.

It stands in the midst of a large park well wooded with stately beech, and diversified by hills and dales, and watered by clear
pools,

pools, and a mote round it; a fine view over the levels to Pevensey, sea in front, and the south Downs rise mountain-like on the west; a large hall on the north, a kitchen, stair-case, a long gallery, and consists of a great number of noble apartments. The entrance grand on the south, through the gateway in a spacious court, clustered round the castle encloses three courts. At the end of the park is a very handsome modern building, occupied by Mr. Hare, to whom this whole estate, (which was left by Mr. Naylor's will, to Hare Bishop of Chichester,) now belongs.

There is a very elegant dining parlour, a large bow, and two recesses, lofty ceiling, some pretty good pictures: out of which into a handsome drawing-room, there is a very curious geometrical circular stair-case, lighted by a sky-light.

The village and church of Hurstmouneux, has a pretty effect from the house and grounds; from hence pass through Boreham, to Lord Ashburnham's grounds, which

as well as his house and woods may be worth seeing, in the road to Battle. Pleasant rides in the woods and walks in the garden, which are well stocked with curious plants. A large piece of water, with a bridge over it, at the seat of the Earl of Ashburnham, prettily situated in a sheltered bottom, and in a beautiful park, well wooded and watered, having a fine hanging wood in front; is well furnished, and some very fine pictures. The church is behind the house, and in it are monuments for Sir William Ashburnham and his lady, daughter of Lord Butler, of Herts; first married to the Earl of Marlborough, who left her a widow, young, rich and beautiful. The inscription written by Sir William, says, she was a great lover of, and blessing to his family. He acknowledges it with the greatest gratitude, and recommends her memory to be cherished by them. Both their figures are whole lengths, in white marble; her's recumbent leaning on her hand; his, kneeling in a loose gown and great flowing

flowing wig. There is another monument for his elder brother, and his two wives, whose figures in white marble are recumbent; he, placed between them in armour, one of them in a winding sheet, the other in a baroness' robe. The inscription mentions, that his father through good-nature to his friends, was obliged to sell this place, (in his family long before the Conquest) and all the estates he had, not leaving to his wife and six children the least substance, which is not mentioned to the disadvantage of his memory; but to give God praise, who so suddenly provided for his wife and children; that, within two years after his death, there was not one but was in a condition rather to help others than want support. His first wife made the first step toward the recovery of some part of his inheritance, selling her whole estate to lay out the money in this place.—He built this church.—This Mr. Ashburnham contrived the escape of Charles I. from Hampton-Court.

In

In the church adjoining the house, are preserved in a chest and may be seen, the shirt, drawers, (and watch, which he gave to Mr. Ashburnham,) which King Charles had on when he was beheaded, and the sheet which was thrown over him after the execution.

In the church is the family vault, which for its capaciousness, and dryness, is equal to any in England. There are also two fine marble monuments of the persons who attended King Charles at the execution; they being his officers.

A S H B U R N H A M,

Which has given a name to as ancient a family as any in these parts, though they have been but of late admitted into the peerage. They are descended from Bertram de Ashburnham, who was sheriff of Surry, Suffex, and Kent, when William the Conqueror invaded England; and is said by some of our historians to have been slain in the fight at Battle, with King Harold, who had made him governor of Dover castle. But by others
for

for not resigning Dover Castle to him after Harold was slain ; for which he was beheaded by him : but however that be, the Conqueror looked upon the family as his enemies ; and though they kept their seat, they appeared not in public a long time. For the first we find in any civil office, is John Ashburnham, who was knight of the Shire for Suffex, and sberiff of Surry and Suffex, in the reigns of Richard II. and Henry IV. His son and grandson Thomas, bore the same office in Edw. IV. and Henry VII.'s reign ; as also did John the son of the last Thomas, 5 Phil. and Mar. I. In later times, William Ashburnham was a gentleman of singular loyalty, and affection to King Charles I. and was one of the first that took up arms for his Majesty, against his rebellious subjects. He was Governor of Weymouth, and major-general of that King's forces in the west ; and after the King's party was wholly subdued, though he was guilty of a mistake in conducting the King to Col. Hammond, brother to the learned Dr.

Dr. Hammond, governor of the Isle of Wight, who delivered him into the power of the army ; his loyalty was never suspected, either by King Charles I. or II. who rewarded it after his restoration with the place of being his cofferer. His eldest brother Sir John Ashburnham, was one of the grooms of the bedchamber to King Charles I. and his son John was created Lord Ashburnham, 1 Gul. III. and Mar. II. anno 1689 ; which honour William his son did, and John his grandson did also enjoy.

Go through most delightful shady woods,
to the town of

B A T T L E,

from whence its name is derived, William the Conqueror having with the loss of about 10,000 men, defeated King Harold, obtained the crown of England, and was crowned at Westminster ; though it is sometimes called the Battle of Hastings, being in Heathfield, near both places ; as he landed within three miles of Hastings, at a place called

called Bull-Hide Haven, and mustered his army at Hastings, after burning his ships; being resolved to conquer or perish in the attempt, or not be obliged to divide his forces, which must have been the case, had he kept them; besides, Harold might have slipped between them, and cut off those who were left to guard the ships, and then with more ease have attacked and perhaps beat that part commanded by King William.

Harold had news of the invasion of William the Norman, who under a pretence of claiming his inheritance, descended to him by the death of King Edward the Confessor, came into England with an army; and though Harold's forces were much diminished by a fight he had of late had with the Danes, and as much fatigued by long marches, to oppose the Normans; yet he hastened with great speed to meet them; and meeting them at a small distance from Hastings, at a village called Epiton, he gave him battle, October 14, 1066. The Normans no sooner saw his approach, but

but they gave the signal for the fight; and the encounter began with flights of arrows from both armies, which held for some time; but coming to a close engagement, they maintained the battle a long while. The English, who with admirable courage and bravery received the first attack, were furiously charged by the horse of the Normans, but with no success; wherefore, when they saw they could not prevail, they, as they had before agreed, retreated; but kept their ranks, which the English not observing, but thinking they fled, broke their ranks, and without any order pursued the enemy; who rallying their forces, charged the English on every side afresh, and made a great slaughter of them; yet not without as brave an opposition as could be expected: For the English having got the highest ground, stood it out a long time, till Harold their King and leader being shot through the head with an arrow, fell down dead; upon which his army being quite disheartened, turned their backs and fled.

Our

Our historians tells us, that his two brothers and threescore thousand men were slain, or taken in this battle; which shews the greatness and populousness of England so long ago, that Harold could gather so great an army in so short a time.

The victorious Norman, after he had partly by fair promises, and partly by terror, settled himself on the throne of England, began to reflect through what a sea of blood he had waded to it; and to make atonement for the vast effusion of blood he had made in this place, erected an Abby on the very ground where the aforesaid battle was fought, and having dedicated it to St. Martin, called it Battle-Abby; placing in it a convent of benedictine Monks, to pray for the souls of the slain; thus at once setting up a monument of his glory and piety as was thought. About the Abby there soon grew up a town of the same name, consisting of 115 houses; to which more have been added since.

Harold's

Harold's mother begged the favour of the victor, to bury him at Waltham Abbey, which was granted, and upon his tomb are the words, HAROLD INFELIX; and on the spot where the body of the brave Harold was found, or where the standard was taken up, the Conqueror erected a high altar in a stately abbey, in memory of that event. He mitred it in consequence of his vow before the battle, giving it the name of Battle-Abbey, and dedicated it to St. Martin: he also designed to have endowed it with lands sufficient for the maintenance of seven-score Monks, whom he brought from Normandy, to pray for the souls of the slain, but he was prevented by death; and here the Conqueror offered up his sword and the royal robe he wore on the day of coronation, and in which formerly hung up these lines:

This place of war is BATTLE call'd, because
in battle here

Quite conquered and overthrown the English
nation were;

E

This

This slaughter happened to them, upon St.
Cecilia's day,

The year whereof - - - - - this
number doth array.

However he granted it divers privileges and liberties, viz : to be free from the Bishop's jurisdiction—to have sanctuary and treasure-trove—with free warren in all their lands—and divers other immunities and exemptions; and gave to it the Manor of Wy, in Kent, and several other Lordships in Suffex, Surry, Effex, Berkshire, Oxfordshire, and Devonshire. This Abbey in after times, found other benefactors, as Thomas Lord Hoo, who by his last will, dated in February, 33 Henry VI. appointed, that lands of 20 marks per annum, should be settled upon this Abbot and Convent, and their successors, to find two monks to sing perpetually at the Benign's altar, for his own and ancestors' souls: As also King William Rufus, and King Henry I. The Monks which he settled in this Abbey,

bey, he brought from the Abbey of Marmontier in Normandy, and of them he designed to have made one Robert Blankard the Abbot; but he going back into Normandy to settle his affairs, was drowned on his return, and so one Gaußbertus was made the first abbot. Mr. Brown Willis, a most inquisitive antiquary, has given us a list of the abbots after him to the dissolution; but there being found nothing remarkable done by any of them, but two, though they are in all 31, we take notice of them only, viz. Haymo, of Offington, who so bravely repulsed the French from Rye; and John Holland, who with the consent of his Monks, surrendered to King Henry VIII. when the lands were found worth 88ol. 14s. 7 $\frac{3}{4}$ d. per annum; Dugdale, 987l. os. 11 $\frac{3}{4}$ d. Speed ex Let.

King William gave Robert Blankard the power of protecting the greatest criminal that fled to it, and even to save the lives of those going to execution.

The remains of the abbey, which was a noble building, as appears by the ruins of the cloister hall, which is near fifty yards long, and covered with lead, the kitchen, having five fire places, and the gate-house, which is almost entire, and made use of for the Sessions and other meetings for the jurisdiction of the town, are yet standing; and formerly made part of the house of Lord Montacute, a Roman Catholic peer, who recanted some years ago, but who died in the same faith. This building is now the property of Sir Godfrey Webster. Many of the buildings are quite demolished, but the foundations of the walls are still found. The whole extent of the abbey is supposed to be one mile in circumference. The town is reckoned unhealthy from its low and dirty situation, and very bad water; it is very small, and consists only of one street; it has been falling into decay ever since the reformation.

Here is a church, the incumbent whereof
is

is called the Dean of Battle, and a charity school for forty boys. The church, which was a low Gothic structure, is now in ruins, and used as a stable, and seems unconnected with the abbey.

The trade of this town consists chiefly in making gunpowder, which is esteemed the best in Europe. The country surrounding it is, as well as the park, rising grounds and woods; are very pleasing to the eye, as they form many agreeable groups, especially a fine view from Beacon-Hill, formerly called Standard-Hill, where King William set up his standard of defiance the day before the decisive battle with Harold and the English*.

The manor of this town 23 Edward I. was the estate of William de Echingham; but of his children we find no mention.

* A messenger brought Harold word, while feasting with great joy at York, that William Duke of Normandy had possessed himself of the south coast, and built a castle at Hastings.

The Abbot of Battle, though in all our historians nameless, yet must be of eternal memory, for his courage and bravery on the following occasion :—The French, in the nonage of King Richard II. observing England taken up in quarrels at home, and regardless of their defence against foreign enemies, invaded this country ; and having plundered the people, carried away the Prior of Lewes captive. This Abbot seeing this, thought it high time to provide for his own safety, got together as good a body of men as the time would permit, and marching them to Winchelsea fortified it, thinking it most proper for him, being a spiritual person, to be on the defensive party : the French followed him, and besieged the town ; and since their endeavours to draw him out to a field of battle proved ineffectual, they planted their guns to batter it down ; but before they could effect their purpose, the country gentlemen and their tenants took courage, and came in so fast upon them, that they, suspecting they should be surrounded
on

on all sides, thought it their best way to make for France as fast as they could, and so left Winchelsea not in much worse condition than they found it. Thus did this Abbot save Suffex, and of course all England; for had they been successful here, it is probable they would have gone on, and made the whole island a prey.

In this town it is said there is a place which after a shower seems to have a dye of red like blood*, which is probable; there being a loamy soil in many places, which having a mixture of ochre, will appear of a bloody colour. King Henry I. granted a market to be kept in this town upon every Lord's-day, (as was used in several other places in his time) free from all duties whatsoever; but Anthony Viscount Montague, who about the year 1600 built himself a beautiful house here, obtained a power by

* William de Newburge says, it is real fresh blood, which cries to God for vengeance.

an Act of Parliament to remove the market to Thursday, as it now continues.

King Henry VIII. upon the dissolution of the abbey, bestowed the scite of it, and several of the lands, upon one Gilmer, who pulled down most of it, and sold the materials first, and then the lands, to Sir Anthony Brown. The posterity of Gilmer live still in this place, but in very poor circumstances. The descendants of Sir Anthony endeavoured to raise themselves a seat out of the materials left, but never finished it; what was begun by them lies in ruins with the abbey itself.

Being now about six or seven miles from Hastings, return that way to Bourne; as it is not only a memorable spot, but also one of the Cinque Ports; indeed the situation merits observation.

The Town of H A S T I N G S

Is supposed to have derived its name from one Hastings, a Danish pirate, who built a
small

small fort on his landing here, in order to cover his men, and secure his retreat, after he had pillaged the country. This town is situated between two high cliffs, one in the sea, and another on the land side, twenty-four miles east of Lewes, and sixty-two south-east of London. It is the chief of the Cinque Ports, and is so ancient that there was a mint here in the reign of King Athelstan, in 924, when it was in a flourishing condition.

Hastings had charters from Edward the Confessor, William the First and Second; King Henry II. Richard I. Henry III. Edward I. and Charles II; but it was burnt by the French in the reign of Richard II. after they had plundered it. It is at present governed by a Mayor, Jurats, and Commonalty. The corporation is exempted from toll, and has power to hold courts of judicature in capital causes.

It had a strong castle, now in ruins, in which was a royal free chapel, dedicated to the Virgin Mary, which had a Dean and

several Canons and Prebendaries, with a revenue valued at the dissolution at 61l. 13s. 5d. per annum. Here was also a priory of Black Canons, as early as the reign of King Richard I. founded by Sir Walter Bricet, and dedicated to the Holy Trinity. Henry Earl of Ewe, in Normandy, further endowed it, who was descended from a natural son of Richard, first Duke of Normandy. Robert the first Earl, to whom it was given, was one of the Conqueror's chief counsellors, and had many other large estates settled on him by the said King. He left this honour to his son William, whose son Henry, upon levying the aid for marrying King Henry II.'s daughter, certified that his father, in the reign of King Henry I. was infeoffed, with sixty-five knights, of which he then had fifty-six in this Rape of Hastings; for them he paid 40l. He left only one daughter and heir who marrying to Ralph de Yeffendon, had by him a son and heir, named William, who after his father's death, adhering to the King of France, and Alice, otherwise having

ing forfeited her estate to the Crown, in King Henry III.'s days, that king seized it, and gave it to Prince Edward his son, Reg. 29. Peter de Savoy, Queen Eleanor's uncle, was then in great favour, and to him the King, Reg. 31, committed the keeping of the castle and honour of this place. After this Peter's death, the same king caused his son the prince, to release and quit claim to him, all his interest to the honour and Rape, gave it to John de Dreux, Earl of Richmond, in lieu of certain lands belonging to the honour of Richmond, which Peter de Savoy had passed to the king; which being done, the King granted him letters mandatory to all the tenants of the said honour and Rape, to do him homage, as his posterity for some successions enjoyed it. In the reign of King Henry VI. Sir Thomas Hoo having, by his valour and conduct, suppressed a rebellion about Caux in Normandy, and merited highly of that prince in his wars with France, was, in consideration of his great

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services,

services, advanced to the dignity of a Baron of this realm by the title of Lord Hoo, his seat in Bedfordshire and Hastings (this place) and to the heirs-male of his body; but though he had three wives, he left no son, but three daughters only, among whom his estate was divided; but the honour became extinct, and was afterwards conferred on the family of de Hastings in manner following :

From this town there was an ancient family as old as the Norman times, that took its name, being called de Hastings; and one of them named Matthew Hastings, held the manor of Grenocle by this tenure, that he should find at this haven an oar, whenever the King would cross the seas. From them is the family of the Earls of Huntington descended, and have their name, and part of their barony from it. William de Hastings, Lord Chamberlain of the King's household, and of North Wales, was the first that had the title of Lord Hastings conferred upon him by King Edward IV. to whom,

whom, as well as to his father the Duke of York, he had been a faithful servant, as he continued all his reign ; and being much in favour with him, obtained many large estates and beneficial places from him ; but after his death, not complying with the Duke of Gloucester's design of making away with, or bastardizing his children, King Edward V. and his brother the Duke of York, he was basely, without trial, murdered in the tower by that Duke's order, who made his way to the throne thereby, and became king by the name of Richard III.—He died possessed of the castle, lordship, and rape of Hastings, which were all seized on as forfeited, by a forged treason laid to his charge, and so detained both from his widow, and heir Edward Lord Hastings for a time ; yet he was permitted to be buried, according to his testament, in the chapel of St. George, within the castle of Windsor, near the tomb of King Edward IV. where his monument is still to be seen. Edward Lord Hastings remained without honour or lands for a time ;

time ; but King Henry VII. having slain Richard in Bosworth-field, and possessed himself of the throne, had such a respect for him in consideration of his father's sufferings, that he restored him to his honours and lands, Reg. 1. which he left to his son George, created Earl of Huntington by King Henry VIII. as his posterity continue writing themselves Earls of Huntington and Lords Hastings, Hungerford, Botreaux and Moles.

This town, in the reign of King Richard II. and about the year 1377, was burnt by the French, who taking the opportunity of some discontents in the beginning of that king's reign, thrust into the the haven of Rye, with fifty ships, and rifled and burnt that town, and from thence proceeded to Winchelsea ; but being beaten off there, did the same to this place. After its rebuilding, it was divided into two parishes, as it now remains. Near this town, in 1263, there was a battle fought between the armies of King Edward the III. led by Prince Edward
his

his son, and Simon de Montford, Earl of Leicester, who headed the Barons, fighting for the observation of the statutes of Oxford, which the King, though sworn to keep, had refused to do. The Barons had the better, and taking the King and Prince prisoners, resolved to oblige them to a second confirmation of them; but while this was doing, there happened a quarrel among the Barons themselves, and Prince Edward escaping, reduced them to his terms by the battle of Evesham, and so peace, after some time, was restored.

This town was destroyed by an inundation of the sea, in the reign of Henry IV. whereupon Sir John Pelham, Knight, by a licence obtained of the same monarch, founded for the canons another habitation or church at Warbilton. King Henry IV. Reg. 14. granted them towards their support, the manor of Withiham, then valued at 25l. 5s. 5d. per annum, for twenty years, which estate was part of the possessions of Morteyn, an alien Priory, at that time
seized

feized into the King's hands by reason of his wars with France. At the suppression it was valued at 51l. 9s. 5½d. per annum. Dugd. 57l. 19s.—Speed ex Let.

The harbour of Hastings, which was formerly famous, being the chief of the Cinque Ports, and from which the town was obliged to furnish the king with twenty ships upon any naval expedition, in recompence for the ample immunities it enjoys, is now a poor road for small vessels; it having been ruined by the storms which from time to time have been so fatal to the neighbouring ports, Rye and Winchelsea, and it still continues a very indifferent one, though great sums have been laid out in order to recover it. Here is however a custom-house and two charity schools, in which are said to be taught two or three hundred children; and the inhabitants amount to about two thousand five hundred, who are chiefly employed in the fishing trade; great quantities of fish being taken upon this coast and sent to London. Hastings has a market on Wednesdays and Saturdays,

Saturdays, with three fairs held on Whit-fun-Tuesday the 26th of July, and 23d of October, for pedlars' goods.

The road to Hastings opens pleasantly on a fine terrace abounding with fine and extensive prospects of both land and sea. On the left hand, near Hastings, pass a noble building and park of General Murray's, who brought the arms of France from Quebec, and presented them to one of the Jurats of Hastings; another seat on the right belonging to Mr. Pelham, in whose parks are fine woods, on a descent for near two miles, through a pleasant shady lane to the town, which is most comfortably situated. It consists chiefly of two streets, though there are several small back streets.

There are two large churches; it being very populous, owing to a considerable fishery for herrings, which are dried here, and are distributed in many parts of the kingdom. In the long street are the principal buildings, several of which are very good, and inhabited
in

in the summer by companies resorting thither for the benefit of sea air and bathing.

There are also some very handsome mansions built with brick and stone, belonging to the families of Milward, Plummer, Capel and Hamet; a very good assembly-room, at a most commodious and good inn. The remains of an old castle and walls, which was built by William I. and is now the property of Lord Pelham, on Rocky-Cliffs, west of the town, are very noble and romantic; and here, or at Pevensey, was probably Anderida, one of the Roman garri-sons.—The fortress is supposed to be built before the Romans landed; for when Aviragus threw off the Roman yoke, he fortified the places most convenient for invasion.

On a hill near the town, called Fairlight, is a most extensive and delightful prospect both of the English and French coast, from the cliffs about Boulogne to the Isle of Wight, an extent of near seventy miles. The following distich may not perhaps be inserted mal-a-propos:

Has—

Has—Dov—Sea—Hy—
 Sand—Rum—Win—Rye.

Having made observation of every thing worthy attention at this place, pursue another rout back to East-Bourne; to accomplish which ride along the beach, and under the cliffs, which appear almost covered with impending rocks, and many in the road, and crossing the valley that leads to Mr. Pelham's; the ground rising gently to Nunhide Haven, near which are ruins of a chapel: it is said King William landed here, and between this and Hastings, a stone is shewn, as the table whereon he eat his dinner.

From hence go through some delightful agreeable lanes by a prospect-house, belonging to Mr. Pelham, to

B E X H I L L.

A small but pleasant village, situated on an eminence, that commands the whole bay from Hastings to Beachy-head, as well as a
 fine

fine fertile, woody, and inclosed country behind.

In the church window, were two figures supposed portraits of Henry III. and Queen Eleanor; but lately by permission of the Bishop of Chichester were taken away by Lord Ashburnham and Mr. Walpole, and may now be seen at the house of the latter, at Strawberry-hill: it is about two miles from the sea. From hence descend gradually through shady lanes, and over short commons (or on the sands about eight miles, if the tide permits, which may be learnt at Bexhill,) to those fine marshes already described, that lead again to Pevensey, the ruins of which will be seen in another point of view, and pass through it to East-Bourne.

As there are two roads to the village of Willingdon, and to avoid going up a hill, turn on the right hand, at the end of the town, just beyond the Custom-house: go through fertile corn fields, passing a pretty shady grove on the left, and on to a gate and
road,

road, which leads through Mr. Thomas's grounds, at Ratten, where may not only be seen the remains of the old house, well wooded, and a good garden, but also a pretty new building, as naked and exposed on the declivity of the hill, under the downs. The prospects from the house amply make up for the blackness of situation; having under it, a fine woody inclosed country, rich marshes away to Pevensey, and an extensive view of the sea, country, and villages to Hastings; pass through a narrow shady and pleasant lane to

W I L L I N G D O N,

a small, but agreeable spot, situated on an eminence, commanding views of the whole country, bounded on one side by romantic hills under the downs: and for beauty of prospect, by all means, walk round the churchyard, and on return, stop at the Red-lion Inn, where there is good accommodation on a short notice, and be amused with a small collection of natural curiosities; the
land-

land-lord being an ingenious clever fellow, having been in India and elsewhere: the views from the house are pleasant, and from which some cottages, that appear almost under ground, have a very romantic appearance. Return to East-Bourne, by the Decoy for Ducks, which for its extensive pleasant and shady walks, by the side of the waters, where the snares are laid, is worthy of observation, as well as the whole process of that business, may be agreeable to be made acquainted with; in going to which, pass by a good farm, and through pleasant grounds, belonging to Mr. Denman.

Also walk round an excellent kitchen-garden, the property of Mr. Thomas, left to the care of a gardener, who supplies the neighbourhood with good vegetables on moderate terms.

From hence up a very pleasant shady lane, to a horizontal mill, for corn, which may be worthy of examination; from hence the farm and grounds of

RADMELL.

R A D M E L L,

The demefne of Harold Earl of the Weft Saxons, who afterwards became king; but being flain by the Normans, at Battel, in this county, the Conqueror feized on all his lands, and gave this lordship, with divers others in this county and elfewhere, to William de Warren, Earl of Surry, whose pofterity enjoyed it, until John de Warren, dying without iffue, Alice his fitter became his heir, and by marriage transferred her hereditary eftates into the family of Fitz-Allans, Earls of Arundel. Richard having forfeited them, this manor was given to Thomas Mowbray, &c. This farm is very agreeable to the eye; continue on a fine terrace, through a narrow fhady lane, by Mr. Augur's, a pretty place, down to Eaft-Bourne.

When at Willingdon, the ride might have extended either to Haylfham or Jevington, therefore an account of each ride may not be improperly given here: firft then from Willingdon to Jevington, go
through

through Warnock, and many lanes which afford a very agreeable shade: From Warnock, go through gentlemen's and farmers' grounds by

F O K I N G T O N.

a large mansion, now belonging to the family of the Doubells; anciently the lordship of Roger la Warr, who in 13 Edward I. obtained the King's licence for a free warren in all his demesne lands here, and dying 14 Edward II. left it so privileged to his son John, who departed this life, 24 Edward III. leaving it with many other estates in the county, to Roger his grandson, (his eldest son John dying in his life time) and leaving him his heir, who also died possessed of it, 44 Edward III. and left it to Sir John la Warr his son and heir, whose brother Thomas la Warr, Rector of the church of Manchester, was his heir; and dying without issue, left this manor with his other estate, to Reginald West, son of Sir Thomas West, by Joan his wife, daughter

ter of the last Roger la Warr, by Eleanor his second wife, who, though but of half blood, was summoned to parliament, as the right heir, and inherited this and other estates of the said Thomas, and left them to his heir, Richard West Lord de la Warr.

From Fokington proceed to

W I L M I N G T O N,

The estate of Robert Earl of Moreton and Cornwall, half brother to the Conqueror, by the mother's side: he gave this manor of Wilmington to the abbey of Grestain in Normandy, who made there a cell for their house.

Henry, the son of Sir Nicholas Parker, was born in this town, in Ratton, an hamlet or house in that parish; he was educated at Oxford, where he took his master of arts' degree, and about the same time was made a barrister of Lincoln's-inn: he was in the time of the rebellion, secretary to the army, under Robert Earl of Essex, where he heaped up an estate; but by the

F

Earl's

Earl's death, he was displaced, and went beyond sea ; and living for some time at Hamburgh, was recalled by Oliver Cromwell, to be his secretary, when he became general. He wrote several books, one about Puritanism, another, the Scottish Holy War, shewing the mischief of the covenant to Great Britain ; and a third, entitled, a Political Catechism, in which the answers are in his Majesty King Charles I.'s own words. He died in 1657.

Wilmington is a pretty small village, near the foot of Windore-hill, romantically situated, where from the tops of the hills it affords an agreeable relief to the eye.

In ascending a long and steep hill to the downs, on an eminence, called Warnock Beacon, at the four angles, there are views of Pevensey, Hastings' downs to Seaford, Newhaven, and the Isle of Wight, and also woods, villages, and the levels terminated by the venerable castle of Pevensey : pass by Willingdon mill, from whence are nearly the same views, along a most delightful

ful terrace, to the hand-post that leads down to East-Bourne.

From Willingdon to Haylsham, on the London road, pass through very woody and shady wide lanes: many pretty views and a winding road.

H A Y L S H A M,

A large scattered town, indifferently built, but a good church, from whence an extensive prospect, being rather a high situation: here was an abbey of Premonstratention canons founded in the reign of King Henry II. and dedicated to the Virgin Mary and St. Lawrence, but removed in the reign of King John, to Begehem, in Kent.

In the way to East-Bourne, pass

G L Y N L E Y,

though better known by the appellation of Greenlee, an ancient building formerly belonging to the family of the Faggs, but now to Lady Peachy; a very agreeable situation, and a comfortable house, always kept in per-

fect order, though not inhabited by her Ladyship: a fine grove of trees in front, fish-ponds and woods behind, a good kitchen-garden, and pleasant views from the house, of downs, Willingdon, Haylsham, and inland country. Pass Priest-hall, an ancient building, now a farm-house, through pleasant shady lanes, to Langley turnpike; on the left of which, a large farm house of Mr. Medley's, the inside of which is very ancient and romantic, as from the remains of a chapel and refectory, it bears a monastic appearance: So proceed on a flat gravelly road to the Sea-houses, East-Bourne, having the sea on the left, and a most beautiful country on the right, bounded by the downs.

HUBERTS, and other HUTS or HOUSES, Situated on the sea beach, at the back of Pevensey, which are much frequented and admired, for various views of that place, and of the sea, where as well as in this bay, there is generally good fishing, and where there is also good accommodation for drinking tea, coffee, &c.

As

As a description of the different roads to Lewes may be agreeable to most visitors to that town, the nearest and most pleasant way in summer is by Jevington, so shall begin an account from that place. The road thereto having already been sufficiently described; ascend a long hill from the downs, gradually to the top of Windore-hill, from the summit thereof, are very extensive views; particularly of the Weald of Suffex. At the bottom of the hill, is the village of

A L F R I S T O N,

Down to which an immense natural amphitheatre, right between the hills, whose sides and bottom are covered with the finest verdure, interspersed with good and agreeable situated farms, particularly Mr. Bean's of Clapton, and a large house in ruins, belonging to the Chownes, burnt several years ago; there is also a fine stream of water, which rises here, and loses itself in the Wealds.

This village lyes on the river Cuckmere, and is beautifully situated in a valley, be-

tween those vast cliffs of chalk, which form the south downs, and whose southern extremity is Beachy-head. Whether we are to understand the name as importing Alfred's town or Old Friston, by way of distinction from Friston, a village nearer the sea, it seems to have been formerly more considerable: the tradition of the inhabitants is, that it was much larger, and the size of the church supports their assertion: it is a large building of flint, in the form of a cross, with a square tower in the middle, on which is a shingled spire; it does not appear extremely ancient, nor has it any monuments; a few small figures remain in the tracery of its windows, among the rest Sens Alphegus: the patron saint is Nicholas; and it is a rectory in the deanery of Pevensey, and in the gift of the crown. Near the centre of the town stands a cross, a pillar of two or three stones, about twelve feet high, tending to a point, with a capital, and a top, and mounted on four steps: here is an inn, noticed for its antiquity; on a piece of timber, on
one

one side of the door, is carved a bishop, in his robes and mitre, a globe in his right hand, his left lifted up, or on his breast, a flag at his feet ; on one side the door, is a fret, on the other a religieuse in a square cap, more damaged than the rest ; near the sign-post is a dog, and a grotesque figure holding a bottle and a flask ; at the corner next the yard, a lion and a boar or bear, holding a kind of a mace, crowned : if one could be sure this last animal was a horse, it would prove this house to have belonged to the Howard family, as a fret is quartered with their arms, on some of their monuments : under the window, above the door, are two snakes, their tails entwined, with a niche, or tabernacle over them ; under the other window a grotesque representation of St. Michael fighting with the dragon. On the bracket of the main beam of the parlour cieling is a shield, inscribed with the name of Jesus. The mantle-tree in the kitchen is wood, adorned with blank shields. By the staircase is a door, stopped up, with old

flowering over it. The chambers above correspond with those below in the solidity of their timber-work, but have no ornaments; some of which were at the town races in 1786, and in the stewardship of Sir Henry Blackman and Mr. Royer, converted into an assembly-room. In a field south of the town is a large barrow, of an oval form; its greatest length is from north to south, the north end lowest, or perhaps levelled.

One might suspect the hero left his name to the town, were it not that Alfredston, in Derbyshire, is now wrote Alfreton, and not Aldfriston; but from whence the village derives its name is uncertain, but more likely from some Saxon owner, than from its seniority to Friston. From what authority the patron saint is said to be Nicholas, is not ascertained; it being affirmed to be Andrew in Browne Willis's *Parochiale Anglicanum*. The description and representation of the carved work at the inn are very just, except that the characters on the shield in the parlour have a dash
over

over them ; which characters may stand for Jesus, the dash shewing it to be a contracted word. By the grotesque figure near the sign-post, holding a bottle, &c. the house seems to have been built for the same use it is now appropriated to, viz. for the entertainment of travellers, or more particularly for religious pilgrims, or mendicant friars ; as likewise an asylum to persons that fled from justice, it being within the jurisdiction of Battle-Abbey ; for in Jeaque's Charters of the Cinque Ports, we have an account of one John Burrell, who in the eighth year of King Henry VIII. having stolen a horse at Lidd in Kent, fled to this village for refuge, there said to be within the jurisdiction of the abbot and convent of Battle, to which abbey William the Norman, as appears by a charter of Henry I. gave the manor and hundred of Alceston, of which Alfreton is a part. The person in the bishop's robes, carved on one side the door, is supposed might be done for an abbot, those of Battle being mitred ; the other person, represented

in a square cap, might be a monk of that monastery, who might be at the expence of having this house erected: he might possibly be one of the family of Echingham, who were some ages past of great note in this county; and from the fret on the other side of the door it seems very probable; the arms of Echingham being argent, a fret azure. The mantle-tree in the kitchen is stone and not wood.

Among the natural curiosities and antiquities in Suffex, pits of the same form as those in Dorsetshire are to be seen on several parts of the South Downs; but the most are on that part that lyes between the rivers Ouse and Adur, in the neighbourhood of Lewes, Brighthelmstone, &c.; but none so large as those of Dorsetshire are said to be, nor do they lye so closely conjoined together: for what use these pits were designed, or by whom made, is perhaps difficult to be known; but one thing seems very plain, and that is, that they were made by art, as the soil seems firm and chalky.

chalky. On first viewing them it may be concluded that they were the work of some remote age ; and perhaps nothing more probable than for them to be made by the Britons for some religious use.

All along the sea coast, between Shoreham and Brighthelmstone, is found washed up, bituminous substances, exactly agreeing with the description of the Kimerage coal, called by the inhabitants strumbolo, and which till of late years was the chief fuel of the poor inhabitants of Brighthelmstone, who were very careful to pick it up after it was brought up by the tide : but since that town has become more populous, by the resort of the gentry, it has grown out of use, on account of the nauseous smell it emits at burning. As no stratum of this fossil is to be found in the cliffs on the coast of Suffex, it must consequently be formed at the bottom of the sea, and by the violent agitation of the water be torn up and brought on shore by the tide.

On almost all parts of the South Downs

may be seen great numbers of barrows, some of which are large and scattered, singly here and there one; on other parts they are smaller, and a great many together; they are chiefly of a round form, with a trench round their basis, and a circular cavity on their top. There are likewise some few of the long kind, the longest of which is on the hill near Aldfriston, which is about 130 feet in length; it has three cavities on the top, like those of the round fashion, one being at each end, and the other near the middle, with a ditch on each side. A few years since, this barrow was opened in part at the north end, but no signs of interment discovered.

Whether Britons, Romans or Danes had the greatest share in erecting these lasting monuments to the dead, there is perhaps no certain proof of, as it is agreed they all erected such monuments, and all adopted the custom of cremation, and depositing the ashes in an urn.

According to Olaus Wormius, the Danes raised long barrows over their sea commanders

manders who died or were slain in battle, they being made to represent a ship, as a distinguishing mark of honour from other officers, who probably had other forms of interment.

The chiefest part of the barrows or tumuli of a bell fashion, with a sink in the middle; some are double, some single, others treble; some few there are of the long kind, one in particular at Aldfriston is fifty-five yards long, with three sinks, one at each end, and one in the middle, with a deep ditch on each side, from whence the earth was thrown which composes it. A gentleman at Aldfriston had the curiosity to have one of the circular ones opened in 1763, and accordingly begun on the south side, and at a few feet in depth found the skeleton of a man lying on its side, in a contracted form, with the head to the west: the bones were very hard and firm, owing to the ground on which they lay, which was a bed of chalk. During the digging, ten knives were found of a different make, iron spikes, charcoal,

charcoal, and a thin piece of yellow metal, bones of brute animals, &c. In the middle, under a pyramid of flints, was found an urn, holding about a gallon of burnt bones and ashes; it was carefully placed on the chalk rock, with about four feet of earth over it; was of unbaked clay, and had some rude ornaments on the verge of it. Mr. Lucas of Aldfriston was in possession of it, with the knives, &c.

At the latter end of the summer, in the year 1765, a person digging flints at the same place where other discoveries had been made, and opening a barrow or tumuli, or, as they are called by the inhabitants, burghs, found three urns of different sizes, carefully placed with their mouths downwards, full of burnt bones and ashes; but the urns were too far decayed to be preserved whole. People are divided in their conjectures concerning these tumuli, whether they were raised over those slain in battle, or were the common burying-places
of

of the original inhabitants : by the different sizes of the urns this probably was a family vault.

Lately a person digging flints near an old camp, Wolsenbury-Hall, about ten miles west of Lewes, found several human skeletons, with each a warlike weapon lying by their side, resembling a common hanger ; these were probably slain in battle, and were buried without any monument or tumuli raised over them.

W I L M I N G T O N.

On the brow of the hill are the remains of the castle, &c. On the side of a hill is the figure of a man, eighty yards in length, which, by the different shades of grass, each hand appears to grasp a staff in a parallel direction with the body. The spot was formerly paved with bricks, which make the difference of the verdure. At Arlington, near this place, is found a variety of petrified wood in a sand-pit.—From hence, through pleasant lanes, to

F I R L E,

F I R L E,

Formerly belonging to the St. Clares, but now to the Gages, who married one of the heirs of that family ; and is now in the possession of Lord Gage, whose hospitality and benevolence are too well known to make any comment on. He has much improved the estate, and has extended the buildings, which are very comfortable and agreeable, being well furnished, and contain many good pictures. It is surrounded with wood, and a large piece of water ; many pleasant rides through and about the park, which pass through and by the village of Firle, and through Glynde *, where the Trevor family have a good house. From hence, through pleasant lanes, and over rising grounds, on

* *Glynn* in the British tongue signifies a valley ; and *bourne* or *burn*, a stream, water, or rivulet in the Saxon.

a fine terrace, having on the left-hand a pleasant country; till turning the cliff at Lewes, when you suddenly see the town, and the river on the left-hand, intermixed with villages. Near this place, at Mount Coburn, was a Danish camp, from whence a most extensive prospect towards Pevensey, Hastings to the east and north-east, though obstructed by hills on the north and south, except a little to the south-west, where the sea is visible towards Newhaven.

ROMAN CAMP, COBURN,

Is round, scarce three furlongs in circuit; its ditch very broad and deep, and the rampart within very high. The places where the tents were pitched are yet visible, which, from the strength of the outworks, intimates that those within held it no small time. Near a quarter of a mile west of it is a strong work, much larger, but not so perfect, yet secure enough to prevent the enemy from making excursions to Lewes.

As

As there are so many and better descriptions of Lewes, it is not presumed to give any account thereof, but only to describe another road back by Ringmer, to do which ascend the hill going out of Lewes on the London road, at the top of which turn on the right, when pass through some pleasant lanes and by some pretty villas, from whence views of the country on your left to

L A U G H T O N,

An ancient seat belonging to the Pelhams, situate in a parish of that name, about five miles north-east of Lewes, in a marshy ground. This house was built by one of the Pelhams 1534, as appears by an inscription round and in the buckles, which are fixed to the walls all the wrong way upwards in the buckle.

This house was surrounded by a mote, had a draw-bridge and several watch towers, the ruins of which are now remaining. The house was built of brick, and is now repaired for a farm house.

The

The following inscription is at Laughton :

Johan. de Pelham dans le temps de Edouard III. 1356, a la guerre de Poitiers en prenant le Roi de France prisonier, avoit donné pour Enseign d'honneur le Boucle, & Roger la War le Chape de l'Epe la Boucle estoit portez aut foix aux deux Cotés d'un Cage, 1503.

This was the Lordship of Giles Lord Badlesmere, 12 Edward III. who died then possessed of it without issue, and left his great estates to his four sisters, of whom Maud, the eldest, and then wife to John de Vere, Earl of Oxford, had this manor assigned her for her share in the division, who after her decease and her husband's, left it, with their honour and estates, to Thomas de Vere, their son and heir ; he died seized of it 45 Edward III. leaving it to Albrecht his son and heir. How or when this manor was alienated from the Oxford family we do not find, but observe from our histories, that the family of Pelham have flourished here for many ages, in the degree of knights, though they have but lately been admitted
among

among the nobility, Sir Thomas Pelham being made a baron of this realm by Queen Anne, reg. 5. by the title of Lord Pelham of Laughton, anno 1706. His son, Thomas Holles Pelham, was Duke of Newcastle.

To evince the antiquity of the family of Pelhams, and their long settlement in this place, we observe that John Pelham of Laughton, Esq. was High Sheriff of the counties of Suffex and Surrey, 2 Henry IV. and had been knight of the shire in Parliament the foregoing year, and either the same, or his son, served in the same post, 8 Henry V.

Several other of this family of Pelhams were men of note in their time, as John Pelham, knight of the shire, 5 Henry VI.; Sir Nicholas Pelham, high sheriff of Surry and Suffex, 3 Edward VI.; Anthony Pelham, Esq. 7 Elizabeth; John Pelham, Esquire, 13th Elizabeth; Henry Pelham, Esquire, 17 Elizabeth; Thomas Pelham, Esquire, 31 Eliza-

31 Elizabeth; and Henry Pelham, 32 Elizabeth.

Sir William Pelham, knight, a person of great eminence in the reign of Queen Elizabeth, who having had some experience of his prudence in peace, and valour in war, employed him in Ireland, where, being by her council appointed Lord Justice, to govern in the interval between the death of Sir William Drury and the arrival of Sir Arthur Gray, as Lord Lieutenant, he did the Queen this signal service, that he broke the force of Desmund's rebellion, though he could not totally prevent it, and delivered the kingdom up to Lord Gray, after one year's government, much better than he found it, and in a better situation than it had been for sixty years before; for by his care and diligence the people were eased, the nobility contented, feuds much abated, the revenue settled, the sea-ports secured, the soldiers well disciplined, and the magazines well furnished;—a great work accomplished in so short a time.

In

In the parish church is the tomb and monument belonging to the Duke of Newcastle's family, and where the late Duke and Duchess were both interred.—Proceed thro' pleasant lanes to the wide plain or common, called the Dicker, over which is about three miles through an agreeable road over to Horsbridge.

On the left hand of the Dicker is Cheddingley, where Judge Jeffries, of infamous memory, lived.—In the church is a curious monument of King James and his queen, and two daughters; and this church was formerly so much frequented, that when Halton was inhabited by the Pelham family, and other families resided in the neighbourhood, there have been within the memory of persons now living, at least fourteen coaches on a Sunday, but often now not so many persons, or even one chaise.

H O R S E-

H O R S E - B R I D G E ,

Is a very small place on the left, where there is a very good house and grounds belonging to Mr. Calverley, who has large gardens and fine woods, in which are pleasant shady walks, and from whence the village of Hellingley forms an agreeable landscape.

From Horse-Bridge, through a pleasant road to Haylsham, a description of which, and road to East-Bourne being already given, a repetition is needless.

As it may not be unentertaining to the reader to be made acquainted with some ancient usages and customs still kept up at East-Bourne, they are as follows :

A very singular custom prevailed in this place for many years, under the name of Sops and Ale, and was productive of much mirth and good humour ; being conducted as follows : The senior batchelor in the place was elected, by the inhabitants, steward, and
to

to him was delivered a damask napkin, a large wooden bowl, twelve wooden trenchers, twelve wooden knives and forks, two wooden candlesticks, and two wooden cups for the reception of sugar; and on the Saturday fortnight the steward attends at the church-door, with a white wand in his hand, and gives notice that sops and ale will be given that evening at such a place. Immediately after any lady, or respectable farmer or tradesman's wife was delivered of a child, the steward called at the house, and begged permission for sops and ale; which was always granted, and conducted in the following order:—Three tables were placed in some convenient room; one of which was covered with the above napkin, and had a china bowl and plates, with silver-handled knives and forks placed on it; and in the bowl were put biscuits sopped with wine, and sweetened with fine sugar. The second table was also covered with a cloth, with china, or other earthen plates, and a bowl with beer sops, sweetened with fine sugar, and

and decent knives and forks. The third table was placed without any cloth; and on it were put the wooden bowl, knives, forks, and trenchers, as before described, with the candlesticks and sugar cups; and in the bowl were beer sops, sweetened with the coarsest sugar. As soon as the evening service was over, having had previous notice from the steward, the company assembled, and were placed in the following order:—those persons whose wives had brought forth twins, were placed at the upper or first table; those whose wives had brought forth a child or children, at the second table; and such persons as were married, and had no children, together with the old batchelors, were placed at the third table, which was stiled *the batchelors' table*, under which title the gentlemen who sat at it, were addressed for that evening; and the gentlemen at the first table were stiled *benchers*. Proper toasts were given, adapted for the occasion, and the company always broke up at eight

G

o'clock,

o'clock, generally very chearful and good humoured.

On the three first Sundays in August, a public breakfast is given at the parsonage-house by the tenants of the great tythes, to the farmers and their servants, each farmer being entitled to send two servants for every waggon that he keeps; so that if a farmer has five waggons to do his necessary business, he may send ten servants, and so in proportion for a less or greater number. The farmers are entertained in the parlour with a sirloin of hot roast beef, cold ham, Suffex cheese, strong ale and geneva; the men are entertained in the barn with every thing the the same as their masters, except the beef. It is presumed that this custom had its origin from the time the tythes were first taken in kind in this parish, in order to keep all parties in good humour.

It may not perhaps be unentertaining to insert the following poetical description of a journey of pleasure to the Sea-Houses at Bourne in Suffex, July 1, 1749.

WHEN

WHEN the bright sun shone with vivific ray,
 Five youths, each with his sister, took their way,
 To Bourne. There by the margin of the main,
 A large balcony did us all contain ;
 A spacious room adjoin'd to this our seat,
 Wherein, if we so pleas'd, we might retreat ;
 From thence, on every side, we could survey
 Delightful prospects, beautiful and gay :
 Upon a rising ground the fabric stood,
 Whence, o'er the lofty oaks and verdant wood,
 We saw the southern downs where shepherds
 keep
 Their sportive lambs, and harmless bleating
 sheep ;
 The fields all waving with their golden grain,
 Seem'd to invite the sickle of the swain.
 We *Pemsey-Levels* view'd, where oxen feed,
 By the cool streams which part each flow'ry
 mead ;
 They at the purling brooks their thirst allay,
 Then frisk it o'er the plain in wanton play.
 Delightful fields ! renown'd ! where fatt'ning
 beasts
 Oft feed themselves, 'till they become our feasts.
 Turn but your eyes, and, lo ! the wat'ry main
 Appear'd in prospect like a chrystal plain ;

Its brilliant beauty, which we gaz'd upon,
 Cast back those rays it borrow'd from the sun ;
 The swelling floods at distance seem'd to rise,
 And touch with sweet embrace the cloudless
 skies :

While softest winds their cooling breezes blew,
 Which o'er the shining surface lightly flew ;
 The floating barks spread out their canvas sails,
 And swell'd their bosoms with the gentle gales ;
 Then pass'd by those that did at anchor ride,
 And smoothly stole along the glassy tide ;
 These were delightful prospects to our sight,
 Yet was our company our chief delight ;
 Our hearts in friendship seem'd to be sincere,
 And joyful mirth did in each mien appear ;
 All yet unbound with matrimonial ties,
 Tho' some appear'd soft Hymen's votaries ;
 The youngest had full twenty years survey'd,
 But not till thirty had the eldest stray'd ;
 On pleasing themes our chat went briskly round ;
 With various liquors was our table crown'd ;
 All which we did with moderation use,
 Nor did impertinence our talk confuse.
 Soon at our call was brought the splendid board,
 As with the riches of fair china stor'd ;
 And in the gallery our table spread,
 The skies, our canopy, hung o'er our heads.

The

The fabric screen'd us from the radiant sun,
 Who with his scorching beams resplendent
 shone ;

A burning lamp, with spirits well supply'd,
 To keep the water in a boiling tide ;
 And all things else were plac'd with nicest care,
 Fit to accommodate and grace the fair ;
 Who often in their pleasing talk exprest,
 That of all liquors, tea they lik'd the best.
 Then here a pleasant jocund chat we had,
 And what seem'd still to make our hearts more
 glad,

Was, that each virgin had a brother here,
 And chearful freedom did in all appear.
 In this our pleasant seat some time we spent,
 Then down to walk along the sea we went ;
 There to behold the rising of the flood,
 And curling waves, as on the brink we stood.
 Here we, like sportive youths, began to play,
 And in each other's sleeves the beach convey ;
 'Till soon the pebbles flew from side to side,
 Like mighty wars, altho' the difference wide :
 For there to wound, each anxious doth appear,
 But here to shun it, was our chieftest care.
 Yet short our sporting was, for now the sun
 Thro' his diurnal course had almost run ;

And now declining to his western seat,
 Gave us the signal that we should retreat.
 Back we return'd, and took our former place,
 Where lovely prawns did soon our table grace ;
 Fair to the sight of a vermilion hue,
 Pregnant with spawn, delicious, large, and new ;
 With these refresh'd, we did our reck'ning pay,
 Mounted our steeds, and homewards took our
 way.

There all the beauties of a summer eve,
 Did to our pleasures some new sweetness give ;
 The very horses too whereon we rode,
 Along the plain with sprightly vigour trod ;
 Toss'd up their heads, and pricking up their
 ears,

Express'd that they of pleasure took their shares.
 Thus briskly on, through pleasant meads we
 went,

Where ev'ry breeze exhal'd a fragrant scent ;
 While pleasing converse flow'd from ev'ry
 tongue,

And with delightful themes the vallies rung ;
 Till we (approaching near our journey's end,)
 Came to the place of parting friend from friend
 Here Peace, to crown the pleasures of the day,
 Seem'd in each mein her beauties to display.

Then

Then with a parting smile each bid adieu,
And wav'd their hands, while either was in
view.

—Pleasures like these, with virtuous freedom
join'd,

Can leave no guilty sting upon the mind ;
But, if t' intemp'rance we lose the rein,
Instead of peace, they end in lasting pain.
Vice will the bliss of Heav'n's best gifts destroy,
But virtue blesses all that we enjoy ;
Ev'n cares and troubles, in a virtuous mind,
But makes its beauties more resplendent shine ;
As beauties in a picture are display'd,
With greater lustre, by a well-wrought shade.
We ne'er should know the summer suns to
prize,

Did we not see black winter's clouded skies ;
So might we relish less those pleasures here,
Did we not sometimes taste of surly care.
Joys without care, no more can always last,
And we not lose of them the pleasing taste ;
Than always day could without night be bless'd,
Or man for ever toil, and never rest.
Then rest my muse, no more of pleasures sing,
Till some new day shall some new pleasure
bring.

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A P P E N D I X.

*An accurate Account of a TESSELATED
PAVEMENT, BATH, and other ROMAN AN-
TIQUITIES, discovered near EAST-BOURNE
in SUSSEX.*

THE meadow, in which the greatest part of the pavement lies, is near a mile and half south-east of Bourne; it contains about four acres, and is of a triangular form; the southern side is against the sea; only a few fishers' cottages, and a small public house or two being between that and the sea. On the northern side of the meadow is a high-way, which leads from Bourne to

Pevensey : the west side is by a fence of post and rails separated from a large corn field, in common belonging to the parish. About the middle of this fence is the pavement, distant from high-water-mark a furlong; in former times it might have been somewhat more, because from this point to the westward, the sea is always gaining from the land.

In the summer 1712, when the fence was repairing, the workmen, sinking a hole to fix a post in, was hindered by something solid like a rock; but casting out the earth clean, found the obstacle to be artificial.— Mr. Thomas Willard of Bourne, then owner of the meadow, being informed of the novelty, gave orders that it should be uncovered; and sent also to Herstmonceux, for one Purceglove, an ingenious engineer, who with his instruments bored through the pavement, and in many places of the ground about it, which he found to be full of foundations: but this his discovery of those foundations was only a confirmation of what the
inhabi-

inhabitants there have always observed as well in plowing as in the growth of their corn and grafs; for in the common corn field, west of the meadow, to the distance of near half a mile, they often raise bits of foundations with their ploughs; and in dry summers, by the different growth of corn they can plainly perceive all that tract of ground to be full of foundations.

The pavement was little more than a foot below the common surface of the ground; what lay next it was a small sea gravel; the position very near due east and west; its length was seventeen feet and four inches; its breadth eleven feet. At first it seemed to have been bounded with a thin brick set on edge, about an inch above the tesserae, so exactly straight and even, as if shot with a plane, and so well cemented as if one entire brick; but when the outside of the pavement was broke up, instead of bricks set on edge, as was imagined, it was bounded with a border of bricks laid flat, and their ends next the tesserae turned up.

The thicknefs of thefe bricks was an inch and a quarter; the breadth not under eleven, and not more than twelve inches; the length full fifteen inches, which, before they were turned up at their ends, could not have been lefs than feventeen. They were very firm, and not in the leaft warped or caft in burning. When broke, their fubftance was fine and well mixed, of as uniform and clean a red colour, as a piece of fine bole; except at the ends where turned up, they were all over covered with a plafter half an inch thick, and fo hard, entire, and even, that it feemed as one ftone quite round the pavement.

Next within the bricks, there was a lift or border of white tefferæ, thirteen inches broad; within that, a lift of brown tefferæ, fomewhat darker than a whetftone, and lighter coloured than the touchftone, four inches broad; then a lift of the white, five inches broad; next within that, another lift of the brown, four inches broad: all the reft of the pavement was fet with white tefferæ

feræ, without any ornament or figure ; which though not gay, looked very neat and clean.

When it was first viewed, none of the curious doubted but that the work was Roman ; many were of opinion that it might have been the floor of a temple or place of worship.

When the ground about the pavement was dug, all these suppositions were quashed, for on the north side of the pavement was discovered an entire bath, sixteen feet long, five feet nine inches broad, and two feet nine inches deep. It was filled with rubbish of buildings, which seemed to have been burnt ; hard mortar, adhering to pieces of Roman brick, squared stones, and headed flint, mingled with ashes of coals and wood. From the north-west corner of the pavement was the passage into the bath, three feet three inches wide, at which place the bricks that bounded the pavement were not turned up at their ends, but lay even with the tesserae. At the distance of fifteen inches from the tesserae, there was a fall of two inches

to the landing-place out of the bath; the landing place was also three feet three inches long, and two feet two inches broad; thence by two stairs was the descent into the bath; the length of the stairs was the same as the landing-place; the breadth of each stair was eleven inches; the height of each step a little more than ten inches; the lowest stair was twenty inches from the farther side of the bath.

As to the pavement, it was secured on every side, and the edges of it rested on a very firm and neat built wall made of Roman brick, squared stone, and headed flint, between five and six feet deep below the surface of the pavement, and full twenty-three inches thick, which we may suppose to have been two feet by the Roman measure. The bricks were not in regular courses, as they are to be seen in those Roman buildings which are in view above ground, but without order dispersed about the wall. The top of the wall indeed was but fifteen inches thick, and that was covered with the bricks
first

first mentioned, which bounded the pavement ; but about fourteen inches below the top there was a set off in the inside of the wall, eight inches broad. The foundation of the pavement was not dug up to the bottom, but opened at one corner only, that it might be discovered how it was framed ; for when it was bored thro' they observed, next under the tesseræ, a bed of very strong mortar, more than a foot thick, under the mortar, a bed of clay two feet thick, and under the clay a firm foundation of brick. The clay was very fine and red, and also close. The surface of the clay was neatly pitched with small flint and stones pointed at their lower ends, and headed at their upper ends.

This pitched work was exactly even with the set-off in the inside of the wall ; on it was laid a bed of coarse mortar of about nine inches thick ; the skirts of this mortar rested on the set-off above mentioned ; it was composed of lime, a sharp coarse sand, small

small pebbles, and bits of brick. Upon this rudus was a finer composition made with lime, a fine sharp sand, some kind of ashes, and, which was the greatest part, stamped brick and pot-sherds, in grains not larger than cabbage-feed, and the flower or fine powder separated from it. This bed was about half a foot thick. Upon this nucleus or terrace were the tesserae set: they were set on end; but so exact was the workman in setting them, that he used two sorts of cement to fix them withal; their lower ends stood in a cement of lime only, well worked; their upper halves were cemented with a fine gray mortar, consisting of fine sand, and (as it seemed) ashes and lime. This grey cement every where filled the intervals at their heads, and was much harder than the tesserae themselves.

The bath was also formed and secured by a very compact wall of the same breadth and depth with that on which the pavement rested; the wall, which sustained the north side of the pavement, made the south side of the bath,

bath. On the south side of the bath, from the east end, to the ends of the stairs, there was a solid seat, twelve feet nine inches long, very near ten inches broad, and fourteen inches high. The bottom or floor of the bath was made after the same manner as the pavement was made, excepting the tesserae, and the thick bed of clay; for under all there was brick, then a bed of the rudus or coarse mortar, somewhat more than a foot thick; above that the nucleus or terrace only, half a foot thick. The sides of the bath, the seat, and the stairs, were plastered over with this terrace about half an inch thick; all which were throughout so hard, compact, and smooth, that when first opened, the whole seemed as if it had been hewed out of one entire rock, and polished. At the middle of the east end, at the bottom, there was a sink-hole, a little more than three inches long, and about two inches deep: about four inches above it there was another passage through the wall of the same size; the first we may suppose to let out the water which

which had been used, the other to let in fresh. The stairs and seat were chiefly made of Roman brick, between fifteen and seventeen inches long, between eleven and twelve broad, and near one and a half thick. At the north side of the bath the ground was not opened; but at the east end of the bath and pavement, at the south side of the pavement, and at the west end of both, there seemed to have been several vaults or cellars; for there were very firm twenty-three inch walls continued every way, whose foundations were as low as that which supported the pavement; so that to the depth of six feet, the ground was filled with such rubbish as was taken out of the bath. The bricks in this rubbish, which were all broke, had several degrees of thickness, from three inches to a little more than one inch; some had one of their sides waved, others had roses on them well imitated. There were also found two sorts of channelled bricks, the one like a trough, the channel three inches broad,

broad, and as many deep, the brick itself an inch and a half thick : the other sort had a cylindrical channel, so that when two were clapped together, they formed a hollow cylinder of three inches diameter. These channelled bricks being all broken, their length when whole is uncertain, as is the use they served to, whether for passages to convey water, or whether they were placed in the walls to distribute heat throughout the building, as was usual in the ancient structures at Rome.

It was farther observable, when the ground was opened the second time, that off from the south-west corner of the pavement, five feet lower than the surface of the pavement, there was discovered a large space paved with brick, eleven inches broad, almost one and a half thick, and fifteen long ; it was very substantially paved, for it had two courses of this brick. There was half a foot of mortar under the lower course, and about an inch of mortar between the two courses ; these bricks also were perfectly well made,
but

but on the under side of each were two knobs about the size of half a walnut, fixed on them as may be guessed, to keep them steady, till the mortar they were set in might dry. This paved place was searched six or eight feet every way; it was all covered with a coat about two inches thick, of ashes and large coals of wood: on that lay confusedly large pieces of the rudus or coarse mortar abovementioned, and lumps of the tesserae in all respects like those on the pavement, and cemented as they were. There were moreover, mingled with the ashes, many large iron nails, bigger, but not quite so long as double tens; some hooks for doors to swing on: several small pieces of earthen ware; some like bits of urns; some of a fine yellow clay; some red, thin, neatly wrought and adorned with flowers; and, lastly, part of a human scull, and pieces of bones near it, which bones were not inclosed in any vessel, but lay loose; they were discoloured like those I have seen in urns; so that the body they belonged to might have perished

perished in the flames that these buildings had been destroyed by. There was no inscription found either on stone or brick ; no statue or other figure, save those on the bricks mentioned ; neither were there any coins met with there. Something more than a furlong north-west of these works, there was a malt-house erected, and also a dwelling-house ; in digging the foundation for the first, there was a coin of Posthumus found, and in the ground dug for the last, a piece of Constantine's found.

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* The bridge at Newhaven was originally projected by Mr. ROYER of East-Bourne, designed by Mr. PLAW, architect, of Tottenham-Court Road, and executed by Messrs. DUTTON, ALLWORK, and LOUCH.
